U3780-2-U

NLS

HANDBOOK

1988

The National Longitudinal Surveys of Labor Market Experience

Center for Human Resource Research
The Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio
1988

This **Handbook** was prepared under a contract with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. None of its content is to be construed as necessarily representing the official position or policy of the Department of Labor.

PREFACE

This volume is designed as a general guide to the National Longitudinal Surveys of Labor Market Experience (NLS) and is intended for three major categories of readers. Persons who wish to ascertain whether their research interests can be served by NLS data will find useful the detailed descriptions of the surveys, the samples covered, and the types of information collected. For those wishing to acquire NLS data or to further explore the applicability of the NLS for their research needs, information is provided on the availability and costs of the various NLS data files and documentation packages.

Secondly, for those who have acquired NLS data files, the handbook also serves as a guide to utilizing the tapes and documentation. Information on the major characteristics of the Original Cohort and NLSY data files, descriptions of tape format and coding conventions, as well as sample programs for accessing NLS data are provided. The content of each of the documentation items is described along with a 'Quick Reference Guide to NLS Documentation' containing an index to terms and sample pages from the NLS codebooks and indices.

Finally, for those interested in research generated from the National Longitudinal Surveys, the handbook provides a publication list of the major NLS research reports prepared over the past 20 years by the Center's research staff. These reports include the major cohort research volumes prepared under contract for the U.S. Department of Labor as well as other special reports generated by Center investigators. Information on the content and availability of the several NLS annotated bibliographies is provided and the handbook concludes with a bibliography of NLS research conducted over the past decade.

The Center would like to take this opportunity to thank the many people in the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration who not only developed the original idea for the NLS but have supported it both financially and professionally since 1965; the personnel of the Demographic Surveys Division of the Bureau of the Census who have collected data on four of the cohorts since 1966; the staff of NORC who have collected the information on the NLSY since 1979; the staff of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development who have financially and intellectually supported the supplemental questions on fertility and the Children of the NLSY survey; the thousands of individuals throughout the United States who consented to be the subjects of the study; and the present and past staff members of the Center for Human Resource Research at The Ohio State University who have been responsible for the design of the study, variable construction, and on-going NLS research. In 1986, the supervision of the NLS was moved to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, a transition which has been greatly facilitated by the enthusiasm of BLS staff.

Finally, it is most appropriate to acknowledge the contributions of Herbert S. Parnes, the late Michael Borus, and Kenneth I. Wolpin, project directors of the NLS from its inception through 1987. Through their exemplary leadership, creativity and patience, they have created this unique data set, built a staff to maintain it, and scrupulously guarded the principle of its public availability.

Randall J. Olsen
Principal Investigator

THE CENTER FOR HUMAN RESOURCE RESEARCH

The Center for Human Resource Research was founded in 1965 as a multidisciplinary research institution concerned with the problems associated with human resource development, conservation and utilization. Its focus on poverty and unemployment in the U.S. and on the economic and social transformation of the third-world, particularly Latin America, has resulted in investigations of the educational and health systems, and labor market institutions of these nations. To conduct these studies, the Center has received funding from the U.S. Departments of Labor, State, Defense, and Health and Human Services, the National Science Foundation, and various state and local agencies and private foundations. The Center is affiliated with the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences of The Ohio State University.

The largest Center project is the National Longitudinal Surveys of Labor Market Experience (NLS). The NLS have been the responsibility of the Center since 1965, with continuing support from the United States Department of Labor. This project has involved repeated interviews over a twenty-year period with five groups of the United States population: older men age 45-59 in 1966; mature women age 30-44 in 1967; young men age 14 to 24 in 1966; young women age 14-24 in 1968; and young men and women age 14 to 21 in 1979. As of this writing, the Center has managed 63 sets of interviews. The Center designs the survey instruments, oversees the field work, and then generates and disseminates fully documented and well-organized data sets to researchers in government, private research organizations, and universities around the world. Data is released to all users at the same time and on the same basis; charges for materials cover only the cost of the media.

The data for the original four cohorts (20,000 individuals) have been collected by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. In 1979, an additional cohort of 12,686 young men and women between the ages of 14 and 21 was added. Annual interviews with this cohort have been conducted since 1979. In 1986 and 1988 measurements of the socioemotional, cognitive, and physiological development of the children of the cohort's female respondents was collected, which has produced a unique dataset for the examination of such effects as parental education, poverty status, health care, and drug and alcohol use on children. Field work for this cohort is handled by The National Opinion Research Center - NORC.

The Center maintains a library, including reference works and current periodicals. Through facilities linked to the university computer and their own in-house computer, the Center's data processing staff provide statistical, technical, and programming support for all users of the National Longitudinal Surveys data tapes.

For more information on specific Center activities, interested persons should contact: Director, Center for Human Resource Research, 650 Ackerman Road, Suite A, Columbus, Ohio 43202-1501.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE NLS RESEARCH PROJECT 1
  Development of the NLS 1
  Purposes of the Surveys 2
  Research Uses of the NLS 3
  Administration of the Project 3
  Current Status and Directions 4
  Organization of the Handbook 4
  References 5

SURVEY METHODOLOGY 7
  Original Four Cohorts 7
    Census Sampling Procedures 7
    Survey Design 9
      Survey Development 9
      Survey Content 9
    Field Work 10
      The Interview Schedules 10
      Interview Methods 11
      The Interviewers 13
      Interview Materials 14
        The Questionnaire 14
        Household Record Cards 14
        High School Survey 15
        Other Interviewing Materials 15
    Data Processing and Cleaning Procedures 15
      Editing and Coding Procedures 15
      Variable Creation 16
      Consistency Checks 16
    Sample Representativeness 17
      Base Year Sampling Weights 17
      Sampling Weight Readjustments 18
      Attrition and Sample Representativeness 19
  NLSY 20
    NORC Sampling Procedures 20
      The Civilian Samples 20
      The Military Sample 23
    Survey Design 25
      Survey Development 25
      Survey Content 26
    Field Work 27
      Interview Schedule 27
      Interview Methods 27
      The Interviewers 28
      Interview Materials 30
        Face Sheet 30

      - Information Sheet 31
      - Locator Sheet 31
      - Household Interview Forms 31
      - The Questionnaire 32
      - Employer Supplement 33
      - Calendar 33
      - Income Tables 1980-1986 33
      - Children's Record Form 33
      - Caretaker Locating Form 34
      - 1986 Child Assessment Survey Instruments 34
        - Mother Supplement 34
        - Child Supplement 35
  - Data Processing and Cleaning Procedures 36
    - Editing and Coding Procedures 36
    - Variable Creation 37
  - Sample Representativeness 38
    - Base Year Sampling Weights 38
    - Attrition 39
- Weighting 39
- Design Effects 41
- References 42

VARIABLE AND FILE DESCRIPTIONS 43
- Selected Variables: Original Cohort and NLSY Main Files 43
- Special Aspects of NLS Data 45
- Selected Variable Tables by Cohort & Year: 46
  - Multiple Respondent Households 95
    - Original Cohorts 95
    - NLSY 96
  - Special NLSY Data Collections 96
    - High School & Transcript Surveys (1979-1983) 96
    - Profile of American Youth - ASVAB (1980) 97
    - Illegal Activities (1980) 98
    - Alcohol Use & Substance Abuse (1982-1985) 99
    - Child Assessments (1986) 99
  - Constructed NLSY Data Files 103
    - Supplemental Geocode Data Tapes (1979-1987) 103
    - Fertility Data & the Supplemental Fertility File (1982-1986) 104
    - Workhistory Tape (1979-1987) 105
    - Merged Child-Mother Data File (1979-1986) 107
    - Women's Support Network Tape (1983-1985) 111

THE PUBLIC-USE TAPES 113
- Original Cohort Data Files 113
  - Current Releases 113
  - Variable Attributes 114
  - Tape Format 114

Standardized Coding Conventions 117
NLSY Main & Constructed Data Files 119
Current Releases 119
NLSY File Structure 119
Tape Format 124
Standardized Coding Conventions 126
Guidelines for Data Management for All Data Files 127
Clearinghouse for Data Problems 128
Tape Ordering Information 128
NLSY Geocode Data Tapes 133
NLSY Detailed File Descriptions 141

SPECIAL USER SERVICES 159
BITNET Services 159
Staff Assistance 160
Data Retrievals 161

NLS DOCUMENTATION 163
Original Cohorts Documentation Items 163
Census Survey Instruments 163
The Codebook 163
Attachments 164
Codebook Supplement - Appendices 164
KWIC Index and Dictionary Thesaurus 165
Numeric Index 165
Flow Charts 165
Error Updates 165
Optional Documentation Items 168
Original Cohort Relationship Tape Documentation 168
NLSY Main File Documentation Items 168
NLSY Survey Instruments 168
Background Materials 168
The Codebook 169
Attachments and Appendices 169
KWIC Index and Dictionary of Keywords 171
Numeric Index 171
Optional NLSY Documentation Items 173
NLSY Special File Documentation Items 173
NLSY Workhistory Documentation 173
NLSY 1979-1982 Geocode Documentation 173
NLSY 1983-1987 Geocode Documentation 174
NLSY 1986 Child Assessment Raw Item File Documentation 174
NLSY 1979-1986 Merged Child-Mother Documentation 174
NLSY SAS Documentation 174
Campus Availability: OSU Users 175
NLS Documentation Ordering Information & Order Form 175
Quick Reference Guide: NLS Documentation 177

Sample Pages: Codebooks, Numeric & KWIC Indices 177
NLS Documentation Item Descriptions 182

NLS PUBLICATIONS 191
General Publications 191
The NLS Handbook 1988 191
The NLSY Child Handbook & User's Guide 191
The NLS UPDATE Newsletter 192
The NLS Annotated Bibliographies 192
NLS Research Summaries 193
Research Reports 193
Major NLS Cohort Research Volumes 193
Older Men's Cohort 193
Young Men's Cohort 195
Mature Women's Cohort 198
Young Women's Cohort 200
NLSY 202
Research Papers and Reports 207
Publication Request Form 217

PUBLISHED NLS RESEARCH: 1978-1988 219
Call for NLS Research Form 255

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Interview Schedules and Retention Rates: Original Four Cohorts 21
Table 2. Distribution of NLSY Military Respondents Interviewed in 1979 by Sex and Type of Military Service. 23
Table 3. Distribution of NLSY Respondents Interviewed in 1979 by Sample Type, Race, and Sex 24
Table 4. Interview Schedules and Retention Rates: NLSY 40
Table 5. Selected Variables by Cohort: Original Cohort and NLSY Main Files 44
Table 6. Selected Variables by Survey Year: Older Men 45-59 in 1966 47
Table 7. Selected Variables by Survey Year: Mature Women 30-44 in 1967 55
Table 8. Selected Variables by Survey Year: Young Men 14-24 in 1966 65
Table 9. Selected Variables by Survey Year: Young Women 14-24 in 1968 74
Table 10. Selected Variables by Survey Year: NLSY 14-21 in 1979 83
Table 11. NLSY Files 1979-1987 121
Table 12. CHRR-Generated Public Documentation: The Original Cohorts 166
Table 13. CHRR-Generated Public Documentation: NLSY Main Files 172

1

THE NLS RESEARCH PROJECT

Development of the NLS

The National Longitudinal Surveys of Labor Market Experience (NLS) began in the mid-1960s when the Office of Manpower Policy, Evaluation, and Research of the United States Department of Labor (DOL) contracted with the Center for Human Resource Research (CHRR) of The Ohio State University to conduct longitudinal studies of the labor market experience of four groups in the United States population: men 45 to 59 years of age, women 30 to 44 years of age, and young men and women 14 to 24 years of age (hereafter referred to as the "Older Men," "Mature Women," "Young Men," and "Young Women" cohorts).

These four groups of Americans were selected because each faced important labor market decisions which were of special concern to policy makers. The initial plan called for annual interviews over a five-year period with a nationally-representative sample of approximately 5,000 individuals in each age/sex group - six interviews with each cohort. Due to cost considerations, it was decided after the second survey of the Older Men to interview the two older age groups biennially rather than annually. The Mature Women's cohort was interviewed in both 1971 and 1972 in order to permit a survey at the end of the five-year period. Due to their greater mobility, the younger groups were to continue to be interviewed annually. As the five-year period drew to a close, the relatively high retention rates that had been experienced (Older Men, 83 percent; Mature Women, 88 percent; Young Men, 76 percent; and Young Women, 90 percent) and the widespread interest generated by these data led to the decision to continue the surveys beyond the period originally contemplated. With the advice of an interdisciplinary advisory panel, plans were made to cover an additional five-year period for each cohort by means of two brief biennial telephone surveys and a face-to-face interview ten years after the original survey.

During 1976, consideration was given to yet another extension of the study. After a questionnaire survey of all known NLS data users and the recommendations of a panel of experts convened by the Department of Labor, a decision was reached in 1977 to: (1) continue the surveys of the four original cohorts for an additional five years (as long as attrition did not become a problem); and (2) begin a new longitudinal study of a panel of young men and young women. The latter study was initiated to permit a replication of much of the analysis made of the earlier cohorts of youth and also to help evaluate the expanded employment and training programs for youth legislated by the 1977 amendments to the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA). To these ends, a national probability sample was drawn of young women and young men between the ages of 14 and 21, with overrepresentation of blacks, Hispanics, and economically disadvantaged whites. With funding from the Department of Defense and the Armed Services, an additional group of young persons serving in the Armed Forces was selected for interviewing. This sample of civilian and military youth, hereafter called the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY), was interviewed for the first time in early 1979. Reinterviews with the civilian youth sample have occurred annually since that time; the military sample was interviewed from 1979 through 1984.

Purposes of the Surveys

The primary purpose of the NLS has been the collection of data on the labor force experience (current labor force and employment status, work history, and characteristics of current/last job) of these five groups of Americans. In addition, information has been gathered on a regular basis on factors potentially impacting labor market attachment, i.e., investments in education and training; geographic region of residence and local labor market conditions; the formative influence of parents; current marital status and family responsibilities; financial characteristics; work-related attitudes and aspirations; as well as such potentially delimiting factors as health problems and job discrimination.

With the advent of the NLSY in the late 70s, the content of the surveys expanded and diversified reflecting the interests of other governmental agencies in addition to the DOL. As stated earlier, support from the Department of Defense and Armed Services made possible the 1979-1984 interviews with 1,280 youth enlisted in the military. In a 1980 study jointly sponsored by the Departments of Defense and Labor, the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery was administered to the civilian and military youth samples. Beginning in 1979, a five-year cooperative effort of the National Center for Research in Vocational Education and CHRR resulted in a survey of the high schools of civilian NLSY respondents and the collection of detailed transcript information on high school completers. In 1981, the National Institute of Education sponsored a set of time-use questions. Alcohol and substance abuse questions were added to the 1982-1985 youth surveys with funding from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism and the National Institute on Drug Abuse. Finally, the 1986 and 1988 administration of a battery of cognitive, socio-emotional assessment instruments to children of NLSY respondents, the development of the 1982-1986/1988 fertility and the child care components of the youth surveys were made possible through funding from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Research Uses of the NLS

NLS data has served for twenty years as an important tool for economists, sociologists, and other researchers in the study of the determinants of labor supply, earnings and income distribution, job search and separation, labor market inequities, and human capital investments. In addition, these data have been used to study the impact of governmental policies/programs and various social-psychological factors on labor force participation.

The broad range of core NLS data coupled with the recent topical expansion of the youth surveys, the ongoing longitudinal nature of the data, and the replication of cohorts across time make the NLS a rich and yet-to-be-fully exploited source of data for the continued study of such issues as: life cycle changes, the family, the aging process and retirement decisions of women as well as men, geographic and occupational mobility, as well as a host of other topical and methodological analyses.

Several comprehensive reviews of NLS research (Bielby 1979; Daymont and Andrisani 1983) and two annotated bibliographies of NLS research (Sproat 1985 and Center for Human Resource Research 1988) summarize much of the work that has been conducted on the NLS since the mid-60s.

Administration of the Project

Responsibility for the administration of the NLS has been shared by three separate organizations: The Center for Human Resource Research, The Ohio State University; NORC (formerly the National Opinion Research Center) at the University of Chicago; and the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

While the specific tasks of these three organizations have varied over the lifetime of the project, CHRR has maintained essential responsibility for design of the survey instruments, data analysis, report preparation, and data dissemination. Sample design, field work, and data reduction tasks for the original cohorts have, under a separate contract with the DOL, remained with Census while NORC has performed similar tasks for the NLSY.

Close interaction and cooperation have existed over the years between both CHRR and the Census Bureau, and between the Center and NORC. CHRR staff have frequently been present at training sessions in which interviewers were instructed in the content of the interview schedules. In pretests and on a number of occasions in actual surveys, CHRR personnel have accompanied interviewers in order to have a firsthand view of how the interviews were conducted. On the other hand, while interview content was principally the responsibility of CHRR, the Census Bureau and NORC provided valuable advice based on their long experience with similar surveys.

Current Status and Directions

Each of the four original cohorts has been surveyed at least twelve times since the mid-60s and interviews are on-going with the Mature Women and Young Women cohorts. Annual interviews have been conducted since 1979 with the NLSY. While both cohorts of men, the Older Men and Young Men, were discontinued in the early 80s, plans are currently underway, with support from the National Institute on Aging, to reinterview in the early 1990s the approximately 2,000 current members of the Older Men's cohort as well as the 1,750 widows of deceased cohort members. The fifteenth interviews are planned for the Young Women's cohort in 1988 and for the Mature Women's cohort in 1989. Yearly interviews with the NLSY are scheduled to continue at least through 1989.

Current tape releases include: Older Men 1966-1983, Mature Women 1967-1984, Young Men 1966-1981, Young Women 1968-1985, and NLSY 1979-1987. Special NLSY data files, the 1979-1987 Geocode, the 1979-1987 Workhistory, the 1986 Raw Child Assessment File, and the 1979-1986 Merged Child-Mother Data File are also available.

Projected public tape releases for 1988-1989 year include: Mature Women 1967-1987; Young Women 1968-1987; the NLSY 1979-1988 main tape and special data files, and the new 1988 child data.

Organization of the Handbook

The Handbook is organized into six major sections:

Section 2 provides technical information on sampling procedures, survey design, field work, sample representativeness, and the data processing and cleaning procedures utilized for each of the NLS cohorts.

Section 3 overviews the primary NLS variables, details by survey year the specific variables collected for each cohort, and discusses each of the NLSY special data collections and constructed data files.

Section 4 summarizes the NLS data files currently available to the public and provides cost and ordering information. For researchers actively involved in utilizing NLS data, the major characteristics of the data files and guidelines for data management are presented.

Section 5 describes the key pieces of NLS documentation which are provided to tape purchasers as well as to other researchers exploring the applicability of NLS data. Documentation ordering information and, for users of the documentation, a "Quick Reference Guide to NLS Documentation" are included.

Section 6 lists the various general publications as well as NLS research reports which are available from the Center.

Section 7 offers the reader a bibliography of published NLS research conducted over the past decade.

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2

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

This section provides technical information on the sampling procedures, survey design, field work, and data processing procedures utilized to generate data on the NLS cohorts. The primary responsibility for certain of these tasks, i.e., sample selection, field work, and data cleaning has resided since the project's inception within two separate organizations: the Census Bureau for the Original Cohorts and NORC for the NLSY. The methods used by each as well as the role of the Center in coordinating survey design activities and preparing data for distribution are discussed below. This section concludes with a discussion of sampling weights and design effects.

Original Four Cohorts

Census Sampling Procedures

Each of the four original NLS samples was designed to represent the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the United States at the time of the initial survey. Each age-sex cohort is represented by a multi-stage probability sample located in 235 sample areas comprising 485 counties and independent cities representing every state and the District of Columbia. The samples were drawn by the Bureau of the Census from the primary sampling units (PSUs) that had been selected for the experimental Monthly Labor Survey conducted between early 1964 and late 1966. A primary sample unit is composed of either a single county or group of counties (SMSA). In certain special situations, state-defined units are termed "independent cities" or "parishes." In these instances, such units are used in the definition of primary sample units. The 235 sample areas were selected by grouping all of the nation's counties and independent cities into about 1,900 PSUs and further forming 235 strata of one or more PSUs that are relatively homogeneous according to socioeconomic characteristics. Within each of the strata, a single PSU was selected to represent the stratum. Within each PSU, a probability sample of housing units was selected to represent the civilian noninstitutionalized population.

Since one of the survey requirements was to provide separate reliable statistics for blacks, households in predominantly black enumeration districts (EDs) were selected at a rate between three and four times that for households in predominantly white EDs. The sample was designed to provide approximately 5,000 interviews for each of the four cohorts--about 1,500 blacks and 3,500 whites. When this requirement was examined in light of the expected number of persons in each age-sex-race group, it was found that about 42,000 households would be required in order to find the requisite number of blacks in each age-sex group.

An initial sample of about 42,000 housing units was selected and a screening interview took place in March and April 1966. Of this number, about 7,500 units were found to be either vacant, occupied by persons whose usual residence was elsewhere, changed from residential use, or demolished. On the other hand, about 900 additional units were found created within existing living space or changed from what had been nonresidential space. Thus 35,360 housing units were available for interview, from which usable information was collected for 34,662 households, a completion rate of 98.0 percent.

Following the initial interview and screening operation, 5,518 males age 45-59 were designated to be interviewed. These were sampled differentially within four strata: whites in white EDs (i.e., EDs which contained predominantly white households), blacks in white EDs, whites in black EDs, and blacks in black EDs.

The original plan called for using the initial screening to select all four samples. However, it was decided to rescreen the sample in the fall of 1966 before the first interview of the young men, since a seven-month delay between the initial screening and final interview seemed inordinate considering the mobility of young men in their late teens and early twenties. To increase efficiency, it was decided to stratify the sample for the rescreening by the presence or absence of a 14- to 24-year-old male in the household. The probability was high that a household which contained a 14- to 24-year-old in March would also have one in September. However, to insure that the sample also represented persons who had moved into sample households in the intervening period, a sample of addresses that previously had no 14- to 24-year-old males was also included in the screening operation.

This phase of the screening began in early September 1966. Since a telephone number had been recorded for most households at the time of the initial interview, every attempt was made to complete the short screening interview by telephone. Following the screening operation, the same differential sampling process that had been used in the case of the Older Men cohort produced 5,713 young men aged 14 to 24 who were designated to be interviewed.

The rescreened sample of households from which the sample of young men was drawn was also used to obtain the sample of women 30 to 44 years of age. Using the same type of differential sampling ratio described above, 5,393 mature women were selected for interview. Finally, from the same group of households, a sample of 5,533 young women aged 14 to 24 as of January 1, 1968 was designated.

Initial interviews with each of the four cohorts occurred between 1966 and 1968. Over 90% of the individuals designated for interviewing responded to each of the first year interviews: 5,020 or 91% of the older men and 5,225 or 92% of the young men were interviewed in 1966; 5,083 (94%) of the mature women were interviewed in 1967; and 5,159 or 93% of the designated young women were interviewed in 1968. Retention rates for each cohort and survey year are discussed below.

Survey Design

Survey Development.

Survey design has been the responsibility of the Center since the project's inception. Development of each survey instrument was assigned to a Center staff member who assumed overall responsibility for coordinating Center and Census Bureau efforts. Review of earlier questionnaires, analysis of field notes from the previous round, examination of problems encountered during the fielding of other cohort's surveys, identification of new topics and/or questions for inclusion in the current survey, and development of the first draft of the questionnaire typically begin nine to twelve months prior to fielding.

When a draft survey instrument has been completed, it is reviewed internally by Center staff against a set of predetermined criteria, i.e., longitudinal consistency, importance to the research community, usefulness for studies by federal agencies, etc. After internal revisions, the draft questionnaire is forwarded to Census staff for review.

Close collaboration between the Census Bureau and the Center occurs at this early stage on such issues as wording and placement of questions, overall format of the questionnaire, survey timing, and continues up through the field period during which time problems arising during the interviewing process are resolved. Advice has been sought over the years from not only the respective funding agencies and Census staff, but technical review committees and other agencies which regularly use these data.

After receiving comments from Census, final revisions to the draft questionnaire are made by Center staff and the instrument is sent to the Department of Labor for approval. The Office of Management & Budget (OMB) clearance process, required of federally funded surveys of more than nine respondents, is handled by the Bureau of the Census with the Center's assistance.

Once OMB approval has been obtained, Census begins the process of developing the fielding schedule, updating the supplementary survey and training materials and assigning and training interviewers. During fielding, the Center continues to work closely with Census on resolution of problems arising during the interviewing process.

Survey Content.

The central focus of each cohort's survey has, to some extent, been determined by the particular stage of labor market attachment that each of these four unique age-sex groups was experiencing (i.e., the transition into retirement by the Older Men's cohort, job re-entry and retirement planning for the Mature Women, and school-to-job transition, occupational choice, and career development for both the Young Men and Women cohorts).

Each survey instrument is organized around core sets of questions: employment, education, training, work experience, income sources, marital status, health, attitudes toward work, as well as occupational and geographic mobility. In addition, each cohort contains special sets of questions on a variety of topics, i.e., either questions that have been asked in select survey years or questions that are specific to that cohort. The focus over the years for the surveys of the Older Men has been on plans for their future, specifically retirement, pension plans, and health. Special topics for the Mature Women's cohort have included volunteer work, household activities, plans for retirement, child care, care of parents, health insurance, commuting time and costs, attitudes toward women working, and perceived job discrimination. The surveys of both the Young Men and Young Women's cohorts have focused on educational goals, high school and college experiences, characteristics of their high school, and future job plans. Surveys of the Young Men have, in addition, collected information on military service and union membership, while special topics for the Young Women have included fertility, child care, responsibility for household tasks, attitude toward women working, and perceived job discrimination.

While efforts have been made to maintain questionnaire consistency over time, questions have been changed in order to make important improvements. In addition, the availability of funding and whether a survey is to be a face-to-face or a telephone interview influence the length of the interview and hence the questions which may be asked. The result is a set of survey instruments for each of the original four cohorts which, although sharing a common goal of delineating the labor market experience of these particular groups of Americans, contain important differences through time and across cohorts.

Section 3 of this handbook provides detailed information on the types of variables collected during each survey year for each of the original cohorts.

Field Work

The Interview Schedules.

The original survey plan for each of the four original cohorts consisted of yearly interviews with the same respondents over a period of five years. Due to cost considerations, it was decided after the second survey of the Older Men to survey the two older groups biennially rather than annually. In order to permit a survey at the end of the five year period, the Mature Women's cohort was interviewed in both 1971 and 1972. Due to their greater mobility, the younger groups were to continue to be interviewed annually. Because of the usefulness of these data and the relatively small sample attrition, a decision was made at the end of the first five year period to continue the interviews for another five years. At this point, the interviewing pattern changed from a yearly personal interview to a 2-2-1 schedule: each respondent was contacted by phone approximately every two years, then again in person one year after the second phone interview. This schedule was continued up until 1988 when the decision was made to conduct a personal interview every other year. Table A depicts the years in which each cohort was surveyed and the type of interview utilized.

For both the Young Men and the Young Women cohorts, interviewing has begun at approximately the same time each year - in October for the Young Men and in January for the Young Women. Because of scheduling problems, the month in which the interviews were conducted with the Older Men and Mature Women cohorts was changed after 1968. Until the 1968 mail survey, surveys of both of these groups began in May of each year; after 1968, the interviews with the Older Men began in July while those with the Mature Women began in April. The interviewing process for each cohort typically extends over a period of two to three months.

Cohort	Survey Years	Fielding Period
Older Men	1966-1968	May-July
	1969-1983	July-September
Mature Women	1966-1968	May-July
	1969-1984	April-June
Young Men	All Years	October-December
Young Women	1968-1985	January-March

Since the interview schedule has varied during certain survey years, especially during the mid-80s, researchers conducting research on topics where time spans are critical are encouraged to carefully check the reference period of each question as well as the actual interview dates.

Interview Methods.

The respondents selected for interviewing each year are, with the exceptions noted below, those who had participated in the initial year interviews and who were alive and living within the United States at the interview date. Subsequent to the first year interview for each cohort, those respondents who had refused to be interviewed were dropped from the sample. Beginning with the third interview year for each cohort, respondents who had been non-interviews for any reason for two consecutive years were also eliminated from attempted interviewing. This noninterview exclusion was, however, not applied to those members of the Young Men's cohort who were subsequently inducted into the Armed Forces. No interviews were attempted with this group while they were on active military duty. They were, however, retained in the sample and interviewed as soon as they left active military service. Beginning in the early 1980s, Census modified the procedures used to select respondents for interviewing and no longer dropped refusals and those not interviewed for two survey years.

Listings of respondents to be interviewed are generated by Census and distributed to its 12 regional offices. Current addresses and contact information are generated from information on the various Household Record Cards as well as through a postal check conducted by Census. Cases are assigned to interviewers who live in the same geographic area as the respondent. For each respondent in their caseload, interviewers receive copies of the questionnaire, the respondents' Household Record Cards, as well as the flashcard and information booklets.

Each respondent to be interviewed is sent various materials designed to encourage continued participation. Advance letters thanking respondents for their continued participation and informing them of the upcoming survey are mailed prior to each interview period. Fact sheets highlighting recent research findings from each cohort's survey data are also provided.

Interviewers are responsible for contacting each respondent in their caseload and for utilizing additional local level resources to locate those respondents who have moved since the last interview. Respondents who have moved outside the geographic district of the assigned interviewer are reassigned another interviewer. Respondents who initially refuse to participate in a survey are sent refusal letters by the regional offices designed to encourage their continued participation and once again contacted by local level interviewers to secure the interview.

While the type of survey, personal or telephone, determines the chief mode of contact, an alternate contact method is used for certain respondents. During a personal survey, for example, those respondents who live long distances from the Census interviewer's base of operation or those for whom the Census supervisor has decided that another contact method is warranted are contacted by telephone. During the recent Young Women's 1988 personal survey, 7.7% of interviewed respondents were contacted by telephone while approximately 10.5% of respondents were contacted in person during the 1987 Young Women's telephone survey. Surveys are administered in English only; multilingual interpreters are made available by the regional offices to interviewers who need them.

The average length of an interview varies depending on the type conducted with personal interviews ranging from 50-60 minutes and telephone interviews averaging 20 minutes. No stipends have been paid to respondents of the four original cohorts for their participation in the NLS.

Validation of responses to select questions is conducted by Census every few years. Respondents are recontacted by regional office staff and administered a subset of the interview questions to confirm the coded responses provided by the interviewers. If substantial discrepancies are found within any given interviewers caseload, additional reinterviews are conducted.

The Interviewers.

Between 300 and 400 Census interviewers have been assigned to each of the NLS surveys. Because many of the procedures and the labor force concepts used in the NLS were similar to those employed in the Current Population Survey (CPS), the Census Bureau has used interviewers familiar with the CPS in all of the surveys. Each interviewer has been responsible for conducting interviews with respondents in their caseload and submitting to the respective regional offices the completed questionnaire, the updated household record card, and the information sheet for each interviewed respondent. Interviewers are usually hired on a part-time basis and work with Census on both the NLS and other surveys.

In each of the early surveys, a two-stage training program was used to provide specific instruction to the interviewers. First, two supervisors from each of the Bureau's 12 regional offices were trained in Washington; they in turn trained the interviewers and office clerks assigned to the survey in their regions. Each trainee was provided with a "verbatim" training guide which was prepared by the Bureau staff and reviewed by staff members of both the DOL's Employment and Training Administration and CHRR. The guide included not only lecture material, but a number of structured practice interviews to familiarize the interviewers with the questionnaire. In addition to the classroom training, each interviewer was required to complete at least one live interview prior to beginning an assignment.

As interviewers developed experience with the NLS, training for each additional survey has become less intensive. While classroom instruction continued to be provided for some time to the small number of interviewers with no previous NLS experience, the continued use of experienced interviewers has allowed for the current exclusive use of a home study package. This package includes an Interviewer's Reference Manual explaining the purpose, procedures, and concepts to be used in the survey, and an accompanying self-study side of structured questions, mock interviews, and a review test which interviewers must complete and return to their Census supervisor.

As part of its interviewer training, Census instituted a field edit to insure adequate quality. In the earliest surveys, this consisted of a "full edit" of the first several schedules returned by each interviewer and a partial edit of the remaining questionnaires from each interviewer's assignment. The full edit consisted of reviewing each questionnaire from beginning to end to determine if the entries were complete and consistent and whether the "skip" instructions were being followed. The interviewer was contacted by phone concerning minor problems and, depending on the nature of the problem, was merely told of the error or asked to contact the respondent for either additional information or clarification. For more serious problems, the interviewer was retrained either totally or in part, and the questionnaire was returned for completion. If problems arose, the complete edit was continued until the supervisor was satisfied that the interviewer was doing a complete and consistent job. Observation of individual interviewers has been conducted on an as-needed basis. The partial edit simply checked to determine that the interviewer had not inadvertently skipped any part of the questionnaire that should have been filled. Any questionnaire that failed the partial edit was returned to the interviewer for completion. After the first two surveys of the Older Men and the initial survey of each of the other cohorts, a "full edit" has been used on all the schedules.

Interview Materials.

The following section provides brief descriptions of the survey instruments and interviewing aids used by Census interviewers during survey administration. Included is information on the purposes and content of each instrument as well as where the user can find a facsimile.

The Questionnaire.

The primary survey instrument is the questionnaire which records: (1) responses to the topical sections (employment, health, marital status, education, training, income, retirement, etc.) of each instrument; and (2) information on the actual interview, i.e., interview dates, times, and contact methods. In addition, the questionnaire provides the interviewer with information on the respondent from previous interviews which will be referred to during the interview. Included on this information sheet is the respondent's prior survey year's interview status, interview date, marital status, labor force status, and employer's name, if working. This information enables the interviewer to accurately route the respondent through the pertinent sections of the questionnaire and provides on-the-spot reconciliation of earlier errors. An interviewing aid, used in conjunction with the questionnaire, is the interviewer flashcard and information booklet which contains a calendar, various time period conversion tables, and flash cards.

Since both the content and arrangement of questions differ from year to year, there are separate and distinctly different questionnaires for each survey year of each cohort. A copy of each survey year's questionnaire is provided within the documentation set.

Household Record Cards.

This instrument: (1) enumerates all persons currently living in the respondent's household; (2) records for each person the following information: name, relationship to respondent, whether this person is considered a household member (CPS definition), marital status, birth date, sex, and military enlistment status; (3) summarizes changes since the last survey in household composition; and (4) provides information on the respondent's current and/or permanent address and telephone number at the time of interview as well as the names of persons who will know how to contact the respondent at the next interview. This locator information is also used to assign a geographic code to the respondent's record so that these data can be matched with labor force statistics for the respondent's area of residence. During certain survey years, the Household Record Card also collected information on type of and access to living quarters, availability of kitchen-cooking equipment, whether dwelling unit was owned or rented, and rural acreage and crop information.

Four versions of the Household Record Cards, each covering approximately three survey years, have been used with the four Original Cohorts: LGT-1, LGT-1A, LGT-1B, and LGT-1C. A copy of each of these Household Record Cards is provided within the documentation package. Users should consult the Interviewer's Reference Manual for the specific instructions and definitions which were used to complete each card. Information from the Household Record Cards is used to complete the family member section of the questionnaires, data from which can be found in Attachment 3 "Household Record Variables".

High School Survey.

In 1968, a supplemental survey of the last secondary school attended by respondents of the Young Men and Young Women cohorts was conducted. This special survey was designed to collect information on both the academic performance of respondents as well as on the programs and facilities of their high schools. A copy of the School Survey is included in the documentation sets of the Young Men and Young Women.

Other Interviewing Materials.

A complete list of other Census interviewing materials (calendars, flash cards, fact sheets, advance letters) which were used in any given survey year are listed in the various Interviewer's Reference Manuals.

Data Processing and Cleaning Procedures

Editing and Coding Procedures.

Most of the data on the interview schedules has required no coding, because responses were either numerical entries or precoded categories. However, clerical coding has been necessary for the occupational and industrial classification of the several jobs referred to in the interview. The Census Bureau's standard occupation and industry codes for the 1960 decennial census were initially employed for this purpose, and have continued to be used to code all occupation and industry variables even in those surveys conducted after the classification systems were revised in 1980. The 1980 Census occupation and industry classifications have been used by Census to double code the current or last job held by the respondent for all cohorts except the Young Men. High costs prevented both the double coding of all current jobs and the recoding of all previous jobs. Codes for other open-ended questions have been assigned by the Census Bureau in many cases on the basis of guidelines developed by the Center. Finally, to preserve the confidentiality of respondents, Census truncates certain income variables and masks geographic data by using gross categories and ranges.

Variable Creation.

In an effort to facilitate use of these data, the Center creates certain variables which are frequently used by researchers. These KEY and created variables include various labor force status, pay rate, and family income variables. The number of KEY variables created for the original cohorts differs by type of survey. The six KEY original cohort variables listed below are created from the data of personal surveys only. The hourly rate of pay is the single designated KEY variable within original cohort telephone surveys.

KEY variables include: (1) hourly rate of pay at current/last job; (2) weeks out of the labor force since last interview or in past calendar year; (3) weeks unemployed since last interview or in past calendar year; (4) weeks worked since last interview or in past calendar year; (5) total family assets; and (6) total family income. In addition to these KEY variables, summary variables, i.e., class of worker, and occupation/industry of current/last job, and reason for noninterview have been created for each cohort. Derivations for selected created variables are provided within the codebooks as well as the codebook supplements.

A large number of other variables have been created for select survey years by Center staff during preparation of the major cohort research reports. While these are not considered KEY variables nor are they available for all survey years, the user can utilize the derivations provided within the codebooks to construct such variables for additional survey years.

Finally, Census creates one variable, the Employment Status Recode, from the CPS set of questions which check all responses to insure that the respondent's labor force status is correctly classified. ESR serves as a more accurate measure of labor force status than the activity during survey week variable.

Consistency Checks.

The focus of those consistency checks conducted by Census on data from the original cohort surveys has been on improving the internal consistency of each survey year's data. Consistency edits for the interview schedules have been completed by the Census Bureau. For the parts of the questionnaire that were similar to the CPS, a modified CPS edit has been used. For all other sections, separate consistency checks have been performed. None of the edits included an allocation routine that was dependent on averages or random information from outside sources, since such allocated data could not be expected to be consistent with data from previous or subsequent surveys. However, where the answer to a question was obvious from others in the questionnaire, the missing answer was entered on the tape. To take an example from the initial survey of the Older Men, if item 39a ("Is there a compulsory retirement age where you work?") was blank but legitimate entries appeared in 39b and c ("At what age?" and "Would you like to work longer?") a "Yes" was inserted in 39a. In this case, only if 39a was marked "Yes" could 39b and c be filled; therefore the assumption was made that either the operator failed to enter the item or the interviewer failed to mark it. When a respondent gives contradictory answers during the course of an interview, no effort is made to determine which response is correct.

Users who find, in the course of their research, either single-year or cross-year consistency problems are encouraged to contact the Center.

Sample Representativeness

Base Year Sampling Weights.

Population data derived from the NLS are based on multi-stage ratio estimates. The first step was to assign each sample case a basic weight consisting of the reciprocal of the final probability of selection. This probability reflects the differential sampling by race within each stratum of the four cohorts.

In the initial survey of each cohort, some members of the original samples could not be interviewed because of absence, refusal, or unavailability for other reasons. The number of individuals with whom initial interviews were conducted was: 5020 Older Men, 5083 Mature Women, 5225 Young Men, and 5159 Young Women.

Note: Actually, 5027 older men were interviewed in 1966. Due to an error, however, the original data tapes contained duplicate records for seven respondents, for a total of 5,034. After the error was discovered, one of each pair of duplicate records was blanked in each subsequent survey, but not necessarily the same one from one survey to the next. After examining the seven pairs of records, the Center's research staff could find no accurate way of preserving the longitudinal integrity of the data for the seven respondents involved. All fourteen records were therefore eliminated from the revised tapes.

The weights for all those interviewed were adjusted to the extent necessary to account for persons who were not interviewed and to account for the overrepresentation of blacks in the sample. This adjustment was made separately for each of eight groupings for the older men (based on the four Census regions [Northeast, North Central, South, West] by urban-rural residence); 16 groupings for the women 30 to 44 (based on the groupings listed above as well as by race [white-black]); and 24 groupings for the young men and women (based on the previous groupings listed above plus three place of residence groupings [urban, rural farm, and rural nonfarm]).

The composition of the sample may differ somewhat, by chance, from that of the population as a whole with respect to residence, age, race, and sex. Since these population characteristics are closely correlated with the principal measurements made from the sample, the measurements can be substantially improved if they are weighted appropriately to conform to the known distribution of these population characteristics (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1963). This weighting was accomplished in the initial survey of each cohort through two stages of ratio estimation.

The first stage of ratio estimation takes into account differences at the time of the 1960 Census between the distribution by race and residence of the population as estimated from the sample PSUs and that of the total population in each of the four major regions of the country. Using 1960 Census data, estimated population totals by race and residence for each region were computed by appropriately weighting the Census counts for PSUs in the sample. Ratios were then computed between these estimates (based on sample PSUs) and the actual population totals for the region as shown by the 1960 Census.

In the second stage, the sample proportions were adjusted to independent current estimates of the civilian noninstitutionalized population by age, sex, and race. These estimates were prepared by carrying forward the most recent Census data (1960) to take account of subsequent aging of the population, mortality, and migration between the United States and other countries (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1966). The adjustment was made by race within three age groups for the two older cohorts, within five age groups for the Young Women, and within four age groups for the Young Men.

Sampling Weight Readjustments.

Subsequent to the initial interview of each cohort, reductions in sample size have occurred due to noninterviews. In order to compensate for these losses, the sampling weights of the individuals who were interviewed had to be revised. This revision was done in two stages. First, out-of-scope noninterviews in each of the years were identified by the Bureau of the Census and eliminated from the sample of noninterviews. This group consisted of individuals who were institutionalized, who had died, who were members of the Armed Services or who had moved outside the United States--i.e., individuals who were no longer members of the noninstitutional civilian population of the United States.

The second stage in the adjustment acknowledged the nonrepresentative characteristics of the in-scope noninterviews. For each of the survey years, those who were eligible but not interviewed, as well as those who were interviewed, were distributed into strata (cells) according to their race, years of school completed, and years in place of residence at the first interview. The 1966 and 1967 characteristic data were used for, respectively, the Older Men and the Mature Women. For the two younger cohorts, the initial survey year characteristic data utilized were race, education of father, and years in place of residence at the first interview. The 1966 data were used for the Young

Men and the 1968 data were used for the Young Women. Within each of the cells, the base year sampling weights of those interviewed were increased by a factor equal to the reciprocal of the reinterview rate (using base year weights) in that year.

For the Young Men's cohort, the sampling weights of those interviewed were further adjusted to account for the return to the civilian population of men who were in the Armed Services at the time of initial interview. This final adjustment made use of the first stage estimates described above and independent Census Bureau estimates of the civilian population by selected age categories and race.

A revised weight for each respondent is calculated for each interview year using the same method described above. Sampling weights for each respondent can be found on the corresponding public data tape release.

Attrition and Sample Representativeness.

Each of the four original cohort samples was designed to be representative of the civilian non-institutional population of the United States at the time of the initial survey. The civilian population of young men beyond the first interview is understated because those serving in the Armed Services at the time of the initial interview were not included in the sample. Conversely, young men who entered the service subsequent to 1966 are unrepresented during their military service, since, as was discussed earlier, no attempt was made to survey members of the sample in the armed forces. This problem is much less significant for the other three cohorts.

During the initial survey years, sample representativeness (i.e., comparisons of various NLS data with that of other data bases) was examined by the Center's research staff on an ad hoc basis usually in conjunction with the preparation of the major cohort research volumes. In 1982, as plans for the ten year extension of the four original cohorts proceeded, a decision was made to examine the issue of representativeness in detail. Selected characteristics of respondents interviewed in the tenth year samples were compared to those of base year respondents. This analysis (Rhoton 1984) found that, for most of the characteristics examined, differences of less than two percentage points were present at the end of the ten-year period. The report concluded that the noninterviews had not seriously distorted sample representativeness for any of the four cohorts.

Attrition within certain of the original cohort samples has remained remarkably low for longitudinal surveys of this duration. As of the latest interview for each cohort, retention rates were as follows:

Young Women	1987	71%
Mature Women	1986	66%
Young Men	1981	65%
Older Men	1983	52%

Table 1. summarizes retention rates by survey year for each of the four original cohorts. The retention rate is calculated as the percentage of the base year respondents who were interviewed in any given survey year. Thus, certain out-of-scope respondents, most notably deceased persons, are included in the non-interview totals. Data from Rhoton (1984) indicates that if these non-interviews (deceased, institutionalized, and military enlistees) were dropped, retention rates would climb especially for the Older Men's cohort. Over 1,300 of the original sample of 5,020 older men had died by 1981. Such recalculations raise retention rates for the sample of older men from 56% to 83%, while increases for the other three cohorts range from 1% - 5%.

NLSY

The following is a brief overview of the sampling procedures utilized by NORC to select the three subsamples of young people which comprise the NLSY.

NORC Sampling Procedures

The following three independent probability samples, designed to represent the entire population of youth born in the United States between 1957 and 1964, were drawn for the NLSY: (1) a cross-sectional sample designed to be representative of the noninstitutionalized civilian segment of American young people aged 14-21 as of January 1, 1979; (2) a supplemental sample designed to oversample civilian Hispanic, black, and economically disadvantaged non-Hispanic, non-black youth; and (3) a military sample designed to represent the population aged 17-21 as of January 1, 1979 and serving in the military as of September 30, 1978. The sampling procedures utilized by NORC to select the civilian and military subsamples differed and are discussed separately below.

The Civilian Samples.

With the exception of individuals on active military duty, all sample selection was accomplished through a multi-stage stratified area probability sample of dwelling units and group quarter units. A screening interview was administered in approximately 75,000 dwellings and group quarters distributed among 1,818 sample segments in 202 PSUs (inclusive of most of the fifty states and the District of Columbia). Included in this screening interview was information which would allow the identification of persons eligible for sample membership.

Approximately 18,000 of the screening interviews were carried out among 918 sample segments in the 102 Primary Samplings Units constituting the NORC Master Probability Sample of the United States. This sample is designed to maximize the statistical efficiency of samples which are "cross-sectional" with respect to the general population. Specifically, through the several stages of sample selection (counties, enumeration districts-block groups, sample listing units), probabilities of selection are based upon either total population or total housing units.

Table 1. Interview Schedules and Retention Rates[a]: Original Four Cohorts

	ORIGINAL FOUR COHORTS											
	Older Men 45-59 in 1966			Mature Women 30-44 in 1967			Young Men 14-24 in 1966			Young Women 14-24 in 1968		
	Type of Interview	Total	Retention Rate	Type of Interview	Total	Retention Rate	Type of Interview	Total	Retention Rate	Type Interview	Total	Retention Rate
1966	Personal	5034[b]	100.0	—			Personal	5225	100.0	—		
1967	Personal	4751	94.4	Personal	5083	100.0	Personal	4790	91.7	—		
1968	Mail	4661	92.6	Mail	4910	96.6	Personal	4318	82.6	Personal	5159	100.0
1969	Personal	4388	87.2	Personal	4712	92.7	Personal	4033	77.2	Personal	4930	95.6
1970	—			—			Personal	3993	76.4	Personal	4766	92.4
1971	Personal	4182	83.1	Personal	4575	90.0	Personal	3987	76.3	Personal	4714	91.4
1972	—			Personal	4471	88.0	—			Personal	4625	89.6
1973	Telephone	3951	78.5	—			Telephone	4014	76.8	Personal	4424	85.8
1974	—			Telephone	4322	85.0	—			—		
1975	Telephone	3732	74.1	—			Telephone	3977	76.1	Telephone	4243	82.2
1976	Personal	3487	69.3	Telephone	4172	82.1	Personal	3538	67.7	—		
1977	—			Personal	3966	78.0	—			Telephone	4071	78.9
1978	Telephone	3219	63.9	—			Telephone	3695	70.7	Personal	3923	76.1
1979	—			Telephone	3812	75.0	—			—		
1980	Telephone	3001	59.6	—			Telephone	3438	65.8	Telephone	3801	73.7
1981	Personal	2834	56.2	Telephone	3677	72.3	Personal	3398	64.9	—		
1982	—			Personal	3542	69.7	Discontinued			Telephone	3650	70.8
1983	Telephone	2634	52.3	—						Personal	3545	68.7
1984	Discontinued			Telephone	3422	67.3				—		
1985				—						Telephone	3720	72.1
1986				Telephone	3335[c]	65.6				—		
1987				Personal						Telephone	3641[c]	70.6
1988				—						Personal	3507[c]	67.9
1989				Personal								

(a) Retention rate is defined as the percent of the base year respondents who were interviewed in any given survey year. Included in the calculations are deceased and institutionalized respondents as well as those serving in the military.

(b) Data are available on a total of 5,020 respondents. For a complete explanation, see the section on Sample Representativeness in this book.

(c) These numbers are estimates and are subject to change.

The remaining 57,000 screening interviews were carried out among 900 sample segments in a 100 PSU sample specifically designed to produce statistically efficient samples of Hispanics, blacks, and economically disadvantaged non-blacks and non-Hispanics. All stages of sampling, except the final stage, were carried out with the probabilities proportional to a linear combination of population size for these groups. The effect of this procedure is to produce sample listing segments which vary significantly in terms of total population size but tend toward equality with respect to the target groups.

In the final stage of sample selection (i.e., dwelling units within sample listing segments), a moderate degree of oversampling was employed in order to increase the sample composition with respect to the targeted groups of the supplemental sample. Since the use of oversampling tends to decrease sample efficiency, attempts were made to hold required oversampling to a minimum.

At all selected dwellings, attempts were made to obtain appropriate classification information for all persons living in the dwelling. In order to minimize the potential for "interviewer effect," survey interviewers were not informed about specific groups that would be included in the subsequent interviews.

Since certain classes of group members do not usually reside in dwelling units, procedures were also used to establish "linkages" between dwellings and these individuals. As part of the initial screening, household respondents were asked if there were any persons with primary family connections to household members who were away from the household at the present time. Included in this group were college students, persons in the military, persons in prisons and other institutions. Household respondents were also asked to name persons who might occasionally stay at the dwelling who did not have any other "usual place of residence." For each individual identified in this process an attempt was made to determine whether the individual would be "linked" to some other household (e.g., college students living off campus in their own dwelling units). All individuals without other linkages were included in the household composition for purposes of subsampling. The only exception to this linkage occurred in the case of active military personnel who were sampled separately.

Selection of sample respondents for the first interview was based upon the individuals identified at the household screening phase. Base year samples of Hispanics, blacks, economically disadvantaged non-blacks and non-Hispanics were selected from individuals identified in both screening samples (i.e., 102 PSU cross-sectional sample and 100 PSU special purpose sample). To the extent that individuals identified in the screening phase were obtained with different probabilities of selection (because of selective oversampling), the selection of base year samples attempts to minimize these probability differences.

Non-black non-Hispanic respondents in the cross-section sample were selected from the 102 PSU cross-sectional sample. Restriction of subsampling for these groups to the 102 PSU National Sample is based upon considerations of per element statistical efficiency.

Screening interviews were completed within, respectively, 91.2% and 91.9% of the cross-section and supplemental occupied dwelling units selected for screening. Of the 12,781 civilian youth selected for interview, 11,406 (or 90 percent) were interviewed in 1979. Table 3. depicts the distribution by race, sex, and sample type of those NLSY respondents interviewed in 1979.

The Military Sample.

Members on active military duty as of September 30, 1978, were sampled from rosters provided by the Department of Defense. Sample selection was accomplished in two stages. In the first stage, a sample of approximately 200 "military units" was selected. These units were selected with probabilities proportional to the number of persons age 14-21 within the unit. Within selected units, persons age 14-21 were subsampled with probabilities inversely proportional to the first-stage selection probability. Of the 1,793 military youth selected for interviews, 1,280 or 72% were interviewed in 1979. Females were oversampled at a rate approximately six times that of the males in order to produce approximately equal numbers of males and females. Within each sex, the sample was stratified on the basis of military service (Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps) and geographic location (Eastern, Western, Europe, Far East, other). Of those interviewed in 1979, 823 military respondents were male and 457 were female. The table below depicts the distribution by type of military service for the males and females interviewed in 1979. The military sample was interviewed from 1979-1984. Retained for continued interviewing in post-1984 surveys were 150 cross-section plus 51 extra military respondents.

Table 2. Distribution of NLSY Military Respondents Interviewed in 1979 by Sex and Type of Military Service

Males	**823**	**Females**	**457**
Army	352	Army	224
Navy	212	Navy	68
Air Force	163	Air Force	131
Marine Corps	96	Marine Corps	34

Table 3. Distribution of NLSY Respondents Interviewed in 1979 by Sample Type, Race, and Sex

Cross-Section Sample	**6,111**
Males	
White	2,439
Black	346
Hispanic	218
Females	
White	2,477
Black	405
Hispanic	226
Supplemental Sample	**5,295**
Males	
Poor White	742
Black	1,105
Hispanic	729
Females	
Poor White	901
Black	1,067
Hispanic	751
Military Sample	**1,280**
Males	
White	609
Black	162
Hispanic	53
Females	
White	342
Black	89
Hispanic	25
Total Sample	**12,686**

Detailed information on NLSY sampling procedures for both the civilian and military samples can be found in "National Longitudinal Survey of Labor Force Behavior, Youth Survey (NLS): Technical Sampling Report" and the "Household Screening: Interviewer's Reference Manual". Both publications are provided to tape purchasers within the main NLSY documentation package or can be purchased separately.

Survey Design

Survey Development.

Development of each NLSY survey instrument has been assigned to a Center staff member who assumes overall responsibility for coordinating Center and NORC efforts. Review of the questionnaire and field notes from the previous survey round, identification of new topics and/or questions for inclusion in the current survey, and development of the first draft of the questionnaire typically begin six months prior to the initial pre-test.

Close collaboration between NORC and the Center occurs at this early development stage on such issues as placement of questions, overall format of the questionnaire, survey timing, as well as confidentiality and other sensitive questions. Over the years, advice on question inclusion as well as review of the draft survey instrument has been sought by the Center from not only the respective funding agencies but technical review committees and other agencies which regularly use these data. In an effort to promote comparability across surveys, new questions, whenever possible, follow the language and format of already developed questions from other surveys. For example, the current labor force status section of the questionnaires is modeled after the Current Population Surveys, the military service questions are identical to those of other Department of Defense surveys, and part of the child care section is adapted from a Survey of Income and Program Participation special module.

When a draft survey instrument has been completed, it is reviewed internally by Center staff against a set of predetermined criteria, i.e., longitudinal consistency, importance to the research community, usefulness for studies by federal agencies, etc.. When the final content and format of the questionnaire has been formalized, an OMB clearance package is prepared which includes justification for all questions asked, copies of the draft questionnaires, and information on questionnaire funding and timing issues. This package is forwarded to the Department of Labor for internal review after which it is sent to OMB for final clearance.

Pretests of each survey instrument are conducted by NORC utilizing a national sample of respondents selected for pre-testing the NLSY. The pretests are generally conducted at five sites across the nation with experienced NLS interviewers. The pretest functions to test questionnaire wording, pinpoint questions that pose dilemmas for either the respondents or the interviewers, and time the various sections of the questionnaire.

Following the pretest, a debriefing is held at NORC which is attended by key staff members of the Center, NORC, as well as representatives of the various funding agencies. The debriefing consists of an item-by-item review of the survey instrument, analysis of the response frequencies for select questions, and discussion of problems encountered by both the respondents and interviewers. Subsequent to this meeting, modifications to the instruments and/or administrative procedures are made and the final package forwarded to the Center for final review.

NORC produces the final version of the questionnaire, and prepares all other survey instruments including the interviewer training materials. During fielding, the Center continues to work closely with NORC on resolution of problems arising during the field period.

Survey Content.

The NLSY survey instruments contain core sets of questions on the following topics: (1) marital history; (2) schooling; (3) current labor force status; (4) jobs and employer information; (5) training; (6) work experience and attitudes; (7) military service; (8) health limitations; (9) fertility; (10) income and assets; and (11) geographic residence. While information on these topical areas has been collected during each survey year, users should be aware that the number of questions on any given topic as well as the wording and universes for each question may differ year to year.

Additional sets of questions on a variety of factors potentially impacting a young person's labor force attachment have been included during select survey years. The initial survey year collected information on family background, knowledge of the world of work, a retrospective evaluation of labor market experience, the influence of significant others, and an abbreviated Rotter locus of control scale. Subsequent surveys have included questions on job search methods, migration, attitudes towards work, educational and occupational aspirations and expectations, school discipline, self-esteem, child care, drug and alcohol use, delinquency, and time use.

Finally, NLSY respondents have been the subject of a number of special surveys, the High School and Transcript Surveys conducted by the National Center for Research in Vocational Education, the Profile of American Youth - ASVAB administration sponsored by the U.S. Department of Defense, and the recent NICHD-sponsored battery of cognitive, socio-emotional, and physiological assessments administered to the children of female NLSY respondents.

Section 3 of this handbook provides both detailed listings of the primary NLSY variables which have been collected during each survey year as well as descriptive summaries of the special NLSY surveys and constructed data files.

Field Work

Interview Schedule.

The original interview schedule, which called for yearly personal interviews with NLSY respondents, was maintained from 1979 through 1986. In 1987, budget problems dictated a limited phone interview rather than a personal interview. Personal interviews resumed with the 1988 round and are expected to continue. Table 4. below summarizes the years in which the NLSY has been surveyed and the type of interview conducted.

The initial 1979 NLSY interviews were conducted between late January and mid-August 1979. The vast majority of subsequent interviews have occurred during the months of February through May. However, the fielding period for the 1987 survey was an extended one lasting from March through October. The 1988 survey will be conducted from June through November. Researchers conducting research on topics where time periods are critical should carefully examine the reference period of the questions, the actual interview dates, and the duration since the preceding interview.

Interview Methods.

Approximately 90% each of the 6,812 youth designated for interviewing in the cross-section sample and the 5,969 youth within the supplemental sample were interviewed in the initial survey year. Of the 1,793 military youth selected for interview, 72% (or 1,280) were interviewed in 1979.

During each survey round, NORC attempts to reach all youth within the active samples. No respondents have been routinely excluded from locator efforts with the exception of respondents who have died. Thus, the permanent NLSY sample designated for interviewing during the 1979-1984 interview years consisted of all civilian and military youth who were interviewed in the base year and who were alive at the survey date. In 1985, when interviewing of the full military sample ceased, the total NLSY sample size dropped from 12,686 to 11,607. Retained for interviewing were the original 11,406 civilian respondents as well as 201 military respondents.

Respondents within the NLSY reside in each of the 50 states, including the District of Columbia and countries abroad. Location of respondents is a coordinated effort of NORC's central office, its locating shop, and local level field staff. Prior to fielding, NORC's central office sends a short, informative 'locator letter' to each respondent reminding the respondent of the upcoming interview and confirming the respondent's current address and phone number. Field staff locating efforts begin with the face, information, and locator sheets (see descriptions which follow). At the local level, interviewers are responsible for contacting each respondent in their caseload and for utilizing additional local resources (post offices, the departments of motor vehicles and vital statistics, etc.) to locate those respondents who have moved. At the discretion of the interviewer, advance letters are sent to cooperative respondents immediately before an appointment is made. If an interviewer is unsuccessful in locating a respondent, the case is transferred to the field manager who undertakes additional locating strategies. For uncooperative respondents, NORC has designed refusal letters which encourage continued participation in the survey. These refusal letters are often written by the field managers who have personal knowledge of specific respondents and can tailor the letter to individual respondent concerns. In the event that such local level efforts fail, the case is forwarded to NORC's Locating Shop in Chicago where the complete hard copy files on each respondent can be accessed and used for additional location efforts.

In addition to its comprehensive location efforts, NORC makes every effort to convert initial respondent refusals to completed interviews. Over the years, it has been successful in conducting interviews with 33-50% of such respondents who had initially refused.

While personal interviews have remained the primary contact method used within all but one of the NLSY surveys, it is not the exclusive method. Telephone contact within personal survey rounds occurs under certain circumstances where the respondent resides in a remote area or field staff determines that phone contact is the preferred method of interviewing a respondent. During the 1986 personal interviews, 8% of respondents were interviewed by phone; in comparison, during the 1987 telephone interview, 11% of respondents were interviewed in person.

NORC prepares a Spanish version of all survey instruments and employs bilingual Spanish-speaking interviewers. During the 1987 interview, 122 respondents requested the use of a Spanish version of the questionnaire.

The average length of a personal interview is approximately one hour. The 1987 telephone interviews lasted around 30 minutes while the 1986 administration of the child assessments added 30 minutes to the total survey administration time. Each respondent is paid ten dollars upon completion of the interview. NLSY mothers participating in the 1986 child assessments were paid an additional five dollars.

NORC's extensive location methods, its conversion strategy, coupled with its close monitoring of response rates for each of the fourteen subsamples of the NLSY have resulted in relatively high retention rates for a longitudinal panel of this duration. Table 4. presents NLSY retention rates for the civilian and military samples during the first nine rounds.

The Interviewers.

Interviews with NLSY respondents are the responsibility of field managers and interviewers located within NORC's twelve administrative regions. Approximately 300 NORC interviewers have been utilized to conduct each of the NLSY personal interviews while approximately 200 interviewers were used in the 1987 telephone interview. Each interviewer receives an assignment packet of cases, averaging 35 respondents, together with supporting information and is responsible for contacting and locating the respondents, scheduling appointments, and planning the field visits.

NORC attempts, to the fullest extent possible, to use interviewers with prior experience on the NLS or on comparable surveys. Training modules targeted both to new interviewers as well as those with some NORC/NLS experience have been developed. Four-day training sessions are held at various sites around the country for new interviewers and those with some prior NORC (but not NLS) interviewing experience. These personalized small-group training sessions are geared toward improving basic interviewing skills, familiarizing attendees with the NLS survey instruments, and NORC's administrative procedures and policies. Each interviewer receives a training kit prior to the group sessions and must satisfactorily complete all group exercises including a full practice interview. Experienced NLS interviewers are expected to complete a set of self-instructional home-study materials targeted to the current round's questionnaire and submit to their supervisor several review problems. Remedial training for individual interviewers is provided by each supervisor on an as needed basis.

NORC places strict emphasis on quality control during every phase of the fielding. Case edits are one of a series of measures employed to evaluate the performance of the field staff and maintain the quality of the data while it is being collected.

In case editing, NORC reviews a sample of every interviewer's work, documents errors and problem situations, provides appropriate and timely feedback which can include re-training, and certifies that the completed case has met an established standard for quality. Case edits occur very early in the round to detect any weaknesses which were overlooked during training. They also continue well into the field period to prevent a slippage in performance or the development of bad habits. The editing function has two parts: (1) initial case edits done by the interviewer's direct supervisor, and (2) ongoing case edits done by the coding shop in the central office.

The following is an overview of the supervisory case editing procedure. Each interviewer mails the first two completed cases to the supervisor. The interviewer is instructed to await feedback on these cases before proceeding with the work. The supervisor conducts a 100 percent case edit according to written specifications provided by the project, including criteria for passing and failing the edit. Depending on the result, the supervisor will: (1) contact by telephone those interviewers who pass the edit and discuss with them any errors that were found; and (2) where appropriate, telephone those interviewers who failed the edit, notifying them, based on the seriousness and extent of the problems, either that the interviewer will need additional instruction or will not be retained. Any interviewer who fails the edit but is retained will be required to submit the next case to the supervisor for review before resuming a full caseload.

All twenty-eight NLSY field managers are called by a supervisor or a coder (six calls in all) from the coding shop about the quality of the cases coded during the first five weeks. The calls take place the second, third, and sixth weeks of coding. The first two calls pinpoint three types of errors: (1) errors made by a number of interviewers--these are handled as overview comments; (2) any information which needs to be retrieved for a specific interviewer; and (3) any other coding problem a specific interviewer is experiencing. The third call discusses (1) and (2) above. The caller follows up by mailing a copy of the overview comments plus interviewer-specific problems to the field manager, district field manager, and central office supervisor. A copy of the overview comments is mailed to the interviewers.

Validation is another process for monitoring the performance of interviewers. At NORC, validation serves two major purposes: (1) it certifies that data have been accurately, reliably, and professionally collected; and (2) confirms that interviewers are completing cases as reported, and with the correct respondent.

NORC validates at least 15 percent of the NLSY cases to ensure that interviews have been conducted properly. A random sample of all cases is drawn and supplemented as necessary to include at least one case per interviewer. The validation instrument requires about three minutes to administer. It verifies the date of the interview, the duration of the interview, and the level of accuracy with which selected information was obtained and recorded. The respondent will also be asked if the interviewer was courteous and whether the interviewer adequately answered the respondent's questions. Furthermore, the respondent will be given an opportunity to offer comments or criticism. Once contact with the respondent has been made and the validation form administered, NORC's staff assesses the results of the call to determine whether any problem or irregularity appeared. This assessment applies specific criteria specifying what constitutes failure of the validation and what steps should be taken if failure occurs.

Interview Materials.

The following is a brief description of the survey instruments and interviewing aids which have been utilized in conducting both the main NLSY interviews and the special surveys. Included is information on the purposes and contents of each instrument, where the user can find a facsimile, and the names of the various NLSY files in which data generated from each instrument can be found.

Face Sheet.

Immediately prior to each round, a Face Sheet is computer-generated for each respondent and mailed to the interviewer assigned to that case. The Face Sheet contains: (1) various pieces of respondent-specific information (name, address, phone number); (2) information about each member of the household or family unit as of the last interview (full name, sex, relationship to youth, education and employment status); (3) a historical overview of previous interview rounds (whether the respondent refused to be interviewed, the case was converted, the interview was complete or incomplete, etc); and (4) information on the version of the household interview form which was used in the previous interview. This information is used to alert the interviewer and field manager to potential problems and assist them in preparing a successful fielding strategy. Sample face sheets can be found in the various Interviewer Reference Manuals.

Information Sheet.

The Information Sheet contains data on the respondent from prior interviews which will be referred to during the interviewing process. Information Sheet items include: marital status, high school completion status, university last attended, names of previous employers, training program enrollment, and pregnancy status. This information enables the interviewer to accurately route the respondent through the pertinent sections of the questionnaire and provides on-the-spot reconciliation of earlier errors.

A sample Information Sheet can be found in the Interviewer Reference Manuals. Information from this interviewing aid can be found in the NLSY file LASTINFO.

Locator Sheet.

The Locator Sheet contains information which will assist the interviewer in contacting each respondent; i.e., current/past addresses and phone numbers of not only the respondent, but relatives and friends of the respondent who are likely to know his/her where-abouts. This information has been generated from the Locating Information section of previous years' questionnaires.

Household Interview Forms.

The Household Interview Forms serve three purposes. They: (1) enumerate all persons currently living in the respondent's household; (2) record information about each person's age, highest grade completed, work experience, relationship to the respondent; and (3) collect family income information. Household interviews are conducted with either the respondent or other family member as indicated below. Interviews typically last five minutes and occur just prior to the main interview.

Different versions of the Household Interview are administered depending upon the type of residence of the respondent. In general, most survey years have three household interview forms. The first version is used if the respondent is living with his/her parents (or in-laws) in which case the interview is conducted with the parents in order to gather information on household income sources. The second version is used if the respondent is living in group quarters, such as a dormitory or the military, or in such temporary facilities as a hospital or prison and is administered to the respondent. If the respondent has a permanent residence elsewhere, the household interview gathers information about that household. The third type of household interview form is administered to the respondent if he/she is living in his/her own dwelling unit or is the head of a family unit. During earlier rounds, many respondents were younger than 18 and living with their parents; thus, the first version was frequently utilized. As of the 1987 survey, all respondents were 21 or older and living predominantly on their own; consequently, only one version is currently in use.

Some variation in administration of the household interview forms has occurred over the survey years and the user should consult each survey year's Interviewer's Reference Manual for the specific instructions utilized. Sample copies of the various Household Interview Forms are provided within the NLSY documentation package. For the 1979 through 1986 survey years, the forms appear as separate documents; as of 1987, the household interview form can be found within the questionnaire. Household interview information can be found in the following NLSY files: HHRECORD, INCOME, and the various MXXVAR (miscellaneous) files.

The Questionnaire.

The primary survey instrument is the questionnaire which records: (1) interview dates and times; (2) responses to all survey questions; (3) locating information which will assist in finding the respondent during next year's interview; and (4) space for interviewer remarks on such topics as: race and sex of respondent, language in which the interview was conducted, the interviewer's impressions of the respondent's understanding of the questions, and presence of anyone else during the interviewing process. An interviewing aid utilized in conjunction with the questionnaire is the Show Card which lists the various possible response categories for select questions and helps the respondent keep complicated response categories in mind.

Copies of each questionnaire are provided within the main NLSY documentation package. Supplemental survey instruments used during special NLSY surveys include: (1) the High School Survey and the Transcript Survey, copies of which can be found in the High School/Transcript Codebook; (2) the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (Air Force Human Resources Laboratory) ; and (3) the Mother Supplement and Child Supplement which are described in detail below.

Data from each year's questionnaire as well as from the special NLSY surveys constitute, of course, the primary NLSY files which are listed in Table 11.. Section 4 of this handbook provides detailed descriptions of each of the 43 topical non-miscellaneous files.

Employer Supplement.

Information about each employer for whom the respondent has worked since the last interview has been collected since 1980 using a separate 15-page instrument called the Employer Supplement. A separate supplement is completed for each employer a respondent has had since the date of last interview. A copy of the employer supplement for each survey year is included in the main NLSY documentation package. Information from the Employer Supplement can be found in the following NLSY files: JOBINFO, PERIODNW, GOVJOBS, and MXXVAR files.

Calendar.

A one-page yearly calendar is used as an interviewing aid to assist the respondent identify critical employment, fertility, and military service dates asked within the questionnaire and employer supplement. A copy of the calendar is provided in the documentation package.

Income Tables 1980-1986.

Official Census poverty threshold income levels were not available prior to the fielding period of the 1980-1986 surveys. Consequently, the Center prepared and utilized projected poverty levels during fielding of the questionnaire and for the creation of such variables as family poverty status. These poverty-level income tables, calculated by family size and non-farm/farm residence, for all states including Alaska and Hawaii, have been developed using a methodology similar to that utilized by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services in the design of administrative poverty guidelines.

Copies of the poverty tables for 1980-1986 are provided to users within the main documentation package. Beginning with the 1987 survey, official Census Bureau poverty level guidelines were utilized.

Children's Record Form.

An interviewing aid containing information on the biological and nonbiological (i.e., adopted or step-) children has been used since the 1985 surveys to: (1) provide identification numbers, names, dates of birth, sex, deceased/adopted status for each child; and (2) identify special sections of the questionnaire (i.e., immunization, feeding, etc.) which need to be administered for particular children.

A sample Children's Record Form can be found in the Interviewer's Reference Manuals. Information from the Children's Record Forms can be found within two NLSY files: CRFBIO and CRFNBIO.

Caretaker Locating Form.

This form was used by interviewers, as they administered the main questionnaire, to locate biological children of the mother who were living outside the mother's household at the time of the 1986 interview. The form lists the distance of the child's usual residence from the mother's household and specific information on the child's current address. While every effort was made to assess these children, the information on the locating form was not data entered.

1986 Child Assessment Survey Instruments.

Two special survey schedules, the Mother Supplement and the Child Supplement were utilized during the 1986 survey to administer the battery of assessment instruments to the children of NLSY mothers. The following section briefly outlines the contents of each instrument. Detailed descriptions of each child assessment instrument can be found in Section 3.

Mother Supplement.

The Mother Supplement was completed by the mother or guardian about each child prior to the administration of the Child Supplement. This instrument includes the questionnaire items from the following four assessment instruments:

(1) The HOME, a subset of items from the Home Observation for Measurement of the Environment Inventory developed by Bradley & Caldwell, which contains three age-specific versions of a set of scales designed to measure the nature and quality of the child's home environment.

(2) How My Child Usually Acts, based on items from Rothbart's Infant Behavior Questionnaire, Kagan's Compliance Scale, and other items from Campos, which contain a set of maternal-report scales measuring temperament or behavioral style over the past two week period for each child under age seven.

(3) Motor and Social Development, items developed by Poe/Bayley, Gesell, and Denver, which measure various milestones in the areas of motor-social-cognitive development for children under age four.

(4) Behavior Problem Index, Zill & Peterson/Achenbach, which elicits mother ratings of children four years of age or older in six areas of problem behavior such as hyperactivity, anxiety, and dependency.

Child Supplement.

The Child Supplement collected: (1) general and health-related background information from the mother of each child; (2) responses from the children to questionnaire items from nine additional assessment instruments; and (3) interviewers' evaluation of the testing conditions and their observations of the child's home environment. This supplement is organized into the following nine sections:

(1) Child Background section collected identifying information (age, sex, grade in school) from the mother of each child.

(2) Child Health section collected information from the mother on health limitations, accidents and injuries, medical treatment in the last twelve months, health insurance coverage, as well as measures of the child's height and weight at the time of interview.

(3) Parts of the Body, developed by Kagan, measures the ability of children aged one to two to identify various parts of their bodies.

(4) Memory for Locations, developed by Kagan, measures the ability of children eight months of age to three years eleven months to remember the location of an object which was subsequently hidden from view.

(5) McCarthy Verbal Memory Scale (Psychological Corporation) assesses short-term verbal memory of children aged three and a half through six years to remember words, sentences, or major concepts from a short story.

(6) What I Am Like, Harter, measures perceived self-competence in the academic skill domain and sense of general self-worth for children aged eight and above.

(7) Memory for Digit Span, a component of the revised Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children (Psychological Corporation) assesses the short-term memory of children seven years of age and older to remember and repeat numbers sequentially in forward and reverse order.

(8) Three subtests of the Peabody Individual Achievement Test Battery (PIAT) (American Guidance Service), the PIAT Math, PIAT Reading Recognition, and the PIAT Reading Comprehension, assess the attained mathematics and reading knowledge of children with a PPVT age of five and older.

(9) The PPVT-Revised (American Guidance Service) which measures the child's hearing vocabulary knowledge.

Copies of these Mother and Child Supplements are provided to purchasers of the child files which contain these data: the NLSY 1986 Child Assessment Raw Item File and the NLSY 1979-1986 Merged Child-Mother Data File. These instruments are also available as a separate documentation purchase item called the Child Assessment Packet.

Data Processing and Cleaning Procedures

Editing and Coding Procedures.

Once a completed interview arrives at NORC's central office, it is directed through a controlled pattern of data reduction steps designed to produce clean machine-readable data. The following steps are conducted for each case: coding, keying, cleaning, hardcopy storage in the NLS Library, and finally presence on the NLSY data file in machine-readable form.

Processing begins with confirming that all required documents (questionnaire, face sheet, household interview, calendar, respondent-fee check receipt, interviewer's record of calls to respondent, case transmittal form and, if applicable, employer supplements) are included with the case and have matching case identification numbers. All documents for each case are placed in a labeled file jacket and are batched for routing to the coding department. Those cases randomly selected for validation are placed in specially marked batches for priority handling.

The coding function has always occupied a vital position in NORC's approach to data reduction. The coder's mission is: (1) To prepare each questionnaire for data entry by performing a complete case edit. The NLSY coder examines all case documents and, by applying a series of editing conventions, visually prepares the case for rapid data entry. The complete case edit, one step in the overall data reduction process, not only facilitates data entry, but it also serves to refine the quality of the data. (2) To identify retrieval errors committed by interviewers. During the case edit, the coders also flag any retrieval errors observed in the questionnaire. A description of the retrieval problem and the hardcopy questionnaire are forwarded to the NLS retrieval shop for further processing. (3) To provide feedback about interviewer performance. (4) To code the occupational, geographic, and educational information collected. This task is assigned by NORC to selected coders. The occupation coders apply Bureau of the Census codes to civilian occupations using both the 1970 and 1980 editions of the Classified Index of Industries and Occupations and the Alphabetical Index of Industries and Occupations. Military occupations for the 1979-1985 survey years are classified by NORC and the Center according to the Department of Defense occupation codes. The Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) codes are used for geographic county/state coding. Finally, NORC assigns the Federal Interagency Committee on Education (FICE) code number to those colleges or universities attended by the NLSY respondent, as well as a numerical code identifying the respondent's major field of study and subspecialty.

NORC retrieves missing and inconsistent data for critical items. The need for retrievals has been quite low and steadily declining. NORC centralizes the retrieval function in its central offices and has established a retrieval shop of specially trained telephone interviewers who retrieve crucial items.

"Front-end" cleaning on entered data is performed as follows: (1) create on-line tables for valid value and range checks as the data are being entered; (2) perform logic checks or simple arithmetic checks; (3) flag important missing items without halting processing of the case; (4) validate a key check digit (part of the Case ID Number on NLS); and (5) perform automatic routing, i.e., avoid entry of skipped fields and thereby greatly speed the entry process on the NLS.

These functions prevent keying of invalid values, but they also identify earlier errors made by interviewers and/or coders and thus become an important source for feedback from the Data Entry Supervisor to supervisors of feeder tasks.

The edit software can make a wide range of logic checks. It accepts boolean logic, nested conditions, bidirectional filter statements, and more. Although many dependencies across items in the instruments are inherent in the questionnaire design, an intense effort is made to identify additional relationships throughout survey processing. In the NLSY, extensive use is made of dates in several sections and the pattern and sequence of the gaps between and across dates is carefully checked.

NORC consults closely with CHRR on the cleaning specifications prior to and during cleaning. The edit application for any survey, which typically is comprised of thousands of statements, is tested and de-bugged on live data prior to the scheduled start of cleaning. Whenever an edit check uncovers an inconsistency, the hard copy is referenced to check for coding or transcription errors. When these inconsistencies are not due to coding or transcription but are the result of respondent inconsistency, the responses are not changed. Any discrepancies which remain are most likely the result of respondent inconsistency.

Variable Creation.

The Center creates certain variables which are frequently used by researchers and/or difficult to construct. These created variables include various employment, education, income, geographic and interview-specific variables.

The following KEY variables have been created for each survey year: (1) weeks worked since last interview and in past calendar year; (2) weeks unemployed since last interview and in past calendar year; (3) weeks out of the labor force since last interview and past calendar year; (4) weeks since last interview; (5) hours worked since last interview and in past calendar year; and (6) total net family income.

In addition to the KEY variables listed above, the following yearly summary variables have been created: (1) family poverty status; (2) highest grade completed; (3) marital status (collapsed); (4) employment status recode; (5) region of current residence; (6) school enrollment status; (7) weeks unaccounted for in calculating weeks worked; (8) unemployment rate for labor market of current residence; (9) urban/rural current residence; (10) SMSA current residence; (11) reason for noninterview; and (12) weeks service in active armed forces since last interview and in the past calendar year. Derivations for certain of these KEY and created variables are provided within the attachments and appendices of the NLSY documentation set.

Finally, derivations for the variables that designate the sex (R 2148.) and race (R 2147.) of each respondent were created from the sample identification code (R 1736.).

Sample Representativeness

Base Year Sampling Weights.

The following principles guide weighting decisions. Individual case weights are assigned to yearly interviews in such a way as to produce group population estimates when used in tabulations. The assignment of individual respondent weights involves at least three stages.

> Stage One: The first stage in weighting involves the reciprocal of the probability of selection at the baseline interview. Specifically, this probability of selection is a function of the probability of selection associated with the household in which the respondent was located as well as the subsampling (if any) applied to individuals identified in screening.
>
> Stage Two: This stage of weighting adjusts for differential response (cooperation) rates in both the screening phase and baseline interview. Differential cooperation rates are computed (and adjusted) on the basis of geographic location, group membership, and within group subclassification.
>
> Stage Three: This stage of weighting attempts to adjust for certain types of random variation associated with sampling as well as sample "undercoverage." This ratio estimation is used to conform the sample to independently derived population totals.

Sampling weights are readjusted for non-interviews each survey year by NORC. Additional information on the weighting procedures developed for the 1979-1982 survey years can be found in the NLSY technical sampling report.

Attrition.

Response rates within the NLSY sample have remained high ranging from 95-96% during the first six years of the study. Table 4. provides yearly retention rates for both the youth sample as a whole as well as for the civilian and military subsamples. Retention rate is calculated as the percentage of the base year respondents who were interviewed in a particular survey year; included in these calculations are certain respondents who have died or who were otherwise non-interviewable. In 1985, interviews ceased for over 1,200 respondents within the original military sample thus reducing the overall NLSY sample size to 11,607. By the end of 1987, 10,485 civilian and military respondents continued to be interviewed for an overall retention rate of 90%. This lower response rate was, in part, a result of this survey being conducted by telephone. While viewed favorably by some respondents, on net, the shift tended to disturb the close interviewer-respondent rapport which in the past had kept response rates high. The 1988 survey resumed with the pattern of face-to-face interviews.

Weighting

The NLS surveys are based upon stratified, multi-stage random samples with oversamples of blacks, and, in the case of the 1979 cohort, Hispanics and poor whites. The data from each interview year contain a weight specific to that year. When this weight is applied, the number of sample cases is translated into the number of persons in the population which that observation represents. The steps followed in the construction of the weights for the 1979 NLSY are described in the technical sampling report referenced earlier.

In the event one wishes to tabulate characteristics of the sample for a single interview year in order to describe the population being represented, it is necessary to weight the observations using the weights provided. For example, if one wished to compute the average hours worked in 1987 by persons 14-21 in 1979, one would simply weight hours worked by the 1987 sample weight. These weights are approximately correct when used in this way. Other applications for which users may wish to apply weighting, but for which the application of weights may not correspond to the intended result include:

Subsamples Generated by Dropping Observations with Item Nonresponses.

Often users confine their analysis to subsamples for which respondents provided valid answers to certain questions. Weighted means here will not represent the entire population, but rather those persons in the population who would have given a valid response to the specified questions. Item nonresponse due to refusals or invalid skips is usually quite small, so the degree to which the weights are incorrect is probably also quite small. In these instances, while the population estimates may be moderately in error, the population distributions are probably reasonably accurate.

Table 4. Interview Schedules and Retention Rates: NLSY

NLSY Youth 14-21 on January 1, 1979							
		Civilian Sample		Military Sample		Total Sample	
Year	Type of Interview	Total	Retention Rate[a]	Total	Retention Rate[a]	Total	Retention Rate[a]
1979	Personal	11406	100.0	1280	100.0	12,686	100.0
1980	Personal	10948	96.0	1193	93.2	12,141	95.7
1981	Personal	11000	96.4	1195	93.4	12,195	96.1
1982	Personal	10912	95.7	1211	94.6	12,123	95.6
1983	Personal	10995	96.4	1226	95.8	12,221	96.3
1984	Personal	10854	95.2	1215	94.9	12,069	95.1
1985	Personal	10708	93.9	186[b]	92.5	10,894[c]	93.9
1986	Personal	10472	91.8	183	91.1	10,655	91.8
1987	Telephone	10306	90.4	179	89.1	10,485	90.3
1988	Personal						
1989	Personal						
1990							

[a] Retention rate is defined as the percent of the base year respondents within each sample type who were interviewed in any given survey year.

[b] A total of 201 military respondents were retained from the original military sample of 1,280.

[c] The total number of civilian and military respondents in the NLSY at the initiation of the 1985 survey was 11,607.

Data from multiple waves.

Because the weights are specific to a single wave of the study, and because respondents occasionally miss an interview but are contacted in a subsequent wave, a problem similar to item nonresponse arises. In addition, occasionally the weights for a respondent in different years may be quite dissimilar, leaving the user uncertain as to which weight is appropriate. In principle, if a user wished to apply weights to multiple wave data, weights would have to be recomputed based upon the persons for whom complete data is available.

Regression analysis.

A common question is whether one should use the provided weights to perform weighted least squares when doing regression analysis. Such a course of action may not lead to incorrect estimates. If particular groups follow significantly different regression specifications, the preferred response is to estimate a separate regression for each group. If one wishes to compute the population average effect of, for example, education upon earnings, one may simply compute the weighted average of the regression coefficients obtained for each group, using the sum of the weights for the persons in each group as the weights to be applied to the coefficients. While least squares is an estimator which is linear in the dependent variable, it is nonlinear in the explanatory variables, and so weighting the observations will generate different results than taking the weighted average of the regression coefficients for the groups. The process of stratifying the sample into groups thought to have different regression coefficients and then testing for equality of coefficients across groups using an F-test is described in most statistics texts.

If one is unsure what the appropriate grouping is, then using the sample weights in a weighted regression may be viewed as a quick and dirty solution to the problem. Such a regression should approximate the results which would be obtained from the corresponding regression on a random sample of the population. Note that if subgroups have different regression coefficients, a regression on a random sample of the population would itself be misspecified.

Design Effects

Because the samples are multi-stage stratified random samples instead of simple random samples, respondents tend to come in clusters, and clusters of persons tend to be alike in a variety of ways for a variety of reasons. For example, there may exist cultural differences by locality or ecological differences in labor market conditions and the like. Depending upon the degree of this homogeneity, the conventionally computed standard deviations for the variables will be too small. The ratio of the correct standard error to the standard error computed assuming a simple random sample is known as the design effect. The technical sampling report for the 1979 NLSY provides design effects for the various strata. A single design effect which can be broadly applied to regression analysis cannot be constructed. To illustrate the approximate size of design effects in regression analysis, a regression of rate of pay for the CPS job in 1979 was estimated using race, sex, marital status and education as explanatory variables. Assuming each of the roughly 200 PSU's have the same number of respondents in the sample of 5724 persons with observed wages, the design effect was calculated to be 1.52. That is, the true standard errors were larger than the naively computed standard errors by a factor of 1.52. When this exercise was repeated for rate of pay in 1986, the design effect had fallen to 1.37. This reduction reflects the fact that mobility tends to mix the respondents more uniformly through the country, reducing the clustering of the sample (and increasing interviewing costs). Many of the persons who started out in the same PSU will have moved to different areas, and hence no longer share unobservable labor market conditions. These shared unobservable labor market conditions are likely responsible for the spatial correlation of the error terms which generates design effects. Thus another advantage of longitudinal data is the lessening of design effects over time.

While users do not have access to the PSUs for either the NORC or Census samples, by obtaining the geocode data for the NLSY it is possible to control for some of the ecological factors generating design effects or, if desired, to compute design effects based upon county or metropolitan area clusters which continue to be present. Such geocode data is not available for the original cohorts interviewed by Census, but there is some limited local labor market data merged into the records. A more complete treatment of design effects is beyond the scope of this Handbook.

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3

VARIABLE AND FILE DESCRIPTIONS

The National Longitudinal Surveys were primarily designed to analyze the sources of variation in the labor market behavior and experience of the age-sex subsets of the U.S. population represented by the samples. Thus, the information collected from the respondents in the several samples relates to variables that either represent significant aspects of labor market activity and labor market status or that are hypothesized to influence, or to be influenced by, such activity or status.

Researchers are cautioned that it is not possible within the space available in the handbook to describe completely or with absolute precision the content of all the interview schedules. The NLS is a large longitudinal data set which contains from 6,000-10,000 variables for each of the four Original Cohorts and over 24,000 variables within the main NLSY files alone. While the surveys for each of the five cohorts contain comparable sets of questions, variation in the types of data collected has occurred both across the survey years of a particular cohort as well as between the five cohorts. It is useful to think of the NLS not as one data set but as a composite of five unique data sets containing a variety of information on the labor force experience of these particular groups of Americans. In order to know precisely what information is available for a given cohort and how it has been coded, users should carefully examine the relevant survey instruments and accompanying documentation.

Selected Variables: Original Cohort and NLSY Main Files

In an effort to give the potential NLS user a general idea of the types of variables available for each cohort, selected survey questions and subject areas which can be found on the main cohort data files have been grouped into the following three major categories: (1) labor market experience variables; (2) human capital and other socioeconomic variables; and (3) environmental variables.

Table 5. below provides a brief overview of these major types of NLS variables and identifies the cohort(s) for whom such data have been collected. Detailed tables which follow depict the types of variables by survey year which have been collected for the Older Men (Table 6.), Mature Women (Table 7.), Young Men (Table 8.), Young Women (Table 9.), and the NLSY (Table 10.). The tables are organized as follows: across the top of each table are the years in which the particular cohort has been surveyed and in the stub are listed some of the variables which have been measured in any given survey year. An asterisk (*) in any cell indicates that the information for the designated variable was obtained for that particular cohort in the indicated year.

Table 5. Selected Variables by Cohort: Original Cohort and NLSY Main Files

I.	**Labor Market Experience Variables**	
	Current Labor Force & Employment Status	All Cohorts
	Characteristics of Current or Last Job	All Cohorts
	Work Experience Prior to Initial Survey	All Cohorts
	Work Experience Since Previous Survey	All Cohorts
	Selected Characteristics of All Jobs Since Last Interview	Y
II.	**Human Capital & Other Socioeconomic Variables**	
	Early Formative Influences	All Cohorts
	Migration	All Cohorts
	Education	All Cohorts
	Training Outside Regular School	All Cohorts
	Government Jobs & Training Programs	Y
	Health & Physical Conditions	All Cohorts
	Marital & Family Characteristics	All Cohorts
	Financial Characteristics	All Cohorts
	Military Service	OM, YM, Y
	Job Attitudes/Perspectives	All Cohorts
	Educational & Occupational Aspirations/Expectations	YM, YW, Y
	Other Social/Psychological Variables	All Cohorts
	Retrospective Evaluation of Labor Market	Y
	Retirement	OM, MW
	Hypothetical Job Offer	All Cohorts
	Volunteer Work	OM, MW, YW
	Significant Others	Y
	School Discipline	Y
	Delinquency & Drugs	Y
	Reported Police Contacts	Y
	Time Use	Y
	Child Care	MW, YW, Y
	Finding Current Job	Y
III.	**Environmental Variables**	
	Current Region of Residence	All Cohorts
	Local Labor Market Characteristics	All Cohorts

OM = Older Men
MW = Mature Women
YM = Young Men
YW = Young Women
Y = Youth

NOTE: The categories of variables listed in this table are survey-specific and reflect the variable lables utilized in the following detailed Tables 6.-10. Categories are not necessarily consistent across cohorts (for example, child care questions for the Original Cohorts can be found under "Marital and Family Characteristics" while NLSY child care variables are listed under "Child Care") and represent only those types of variables found on the main cohort files.

Users should be aware that in some instances the variable descriptions in the tables represent categories of variables and not single response items. Variables, in some cases, are derived directly from the response to a specific question in the interview schedule. In other cases, the variables either have been created by the Center on the basis of responses to a series of questions in the survey instrument or can be so constructed by the user.

Finally, these tables depict selected variables from only the main files of the four Original Cohorts and the NLSY. Additional raw and constructed variables on a number of topics (i.e., individual work histories, geographic-environmental data, fertility, and child-specific variables, etc.) can be found within separate NLSY files (see the following sections on 'Special NLSY Data Collections' and 'Constructed NLSY Data Files').

Special Aspects of NLS Data

The sampling design utilized for the five NLS cohorts offers researchers a unique opportunity to study in detail related individuals (i.e., husbands/wives, fathers/daughters, mothers/sons, siblings, etc.) sharing the same or different household(s). In addition, special surveys conducted exclusively with NLSY respondents as well as constructed data files developed by the Center provide users with detailed topical data on: (1) last secondary school attended including transcript information and selected aptitude/intelligence scores; (2) test scores from the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB); (3) illegal activities participation including police contacts; (4) alcohol use and substance abuse; (5) assessment data on the cognitive, socio-emotional, physiological development of [a sample of] NLSY children; (6) detailed geographic-environmental data including state, county, SMSA of current residence; (7) a supplemental file of constructed and edited fertility variables; (8) weekly work histories detailing each respondent's labor force status, hours worked, and employment at more than one job from 1978 through the 1987 interview; and (9) merged data on NLSY mothers and their children from the main files and the 1986 child assessments.

What follows is a description of each of these special aspects of NLS data including descriptions of relevant documentation items and various technical/research reports which users may wish to consult. While some of these data are provided within the main file of the relevant cohort, others are individual files and must be ordered separately. All documentation items for a particular data set are provided to purchasers of the data file. Researchers may order individual documentation items as well as those reports followed by a [bracketed] order number. Additional information on documentation and publications available from the Center can be found in Sections 6 and 7 of this handbook.

(text continues after the detailed tables)

Table 6. Selected Variables by Survey Year: Older Men 45-59 in 1966

Variable	66	67	68	69	71	73	75	76	78	80	81	83
I. LABOR MARKET EXPERIENCE VARIABLES												
A. Current Labor Force and Employment Status												
Survey week labor force and employment status	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hours worked in survey week	*	*		*	*			*			*	
Weeks worked (time frames vary)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Usual hours worked during weeks worked	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Weeks unemployed (time frames vary)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Spells of unemployment in past year	*	*		*	*							
Weeks out of labor force (time frames vary)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
B. Characteristics of Current or Last Job												
Occupation, industry, class of worker	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Startdate/stopdate	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hours per week usually worked		*		*	*			*	*	*	*	*
Hourly rate of pay	*	*		*	*			*	*	*	*	*
Commuting time and/or costs					*			*				
Covered by collective bargaining				*	*			*			*	
Is R union member				*	*			*			*	

Table 6. (continued)

Variable	66	67	68	69	71	73	75	76	78	80	81	83
C. Work Experience Prior to Initial Survey												
Occupation, industry, class of worker, startdate, stopdate, and reason for leaving first job after leaving school	*											
Occupation, industry, class of worker, startdate, stopdate, and reason for leaving longest job since leaving school	*											
D. Work Experience Since Previous Survey												
Occupation, industry, class of worker, hours per week, startdate, stopdate, and reason for leaving intervening jobs (details vary)		*	*	*	*			*			*	
Interfirm mobility (details vary)		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
II. HUMAN CAPITAL AND OTHER SOCIOECONOMIC VARIABLES												
A. Early Formative Influences												
Nationality	*											
Type of residence at age 15	*											
Person(s) R lived with at age 15	*											
Occupation of head of household when R was 15	*											
Highest grade completed by father	*											
B. Migration												
Years at current residence	*											

Table 6. (continued)

Variable	66	67	68	69	71	73	75	76	78	80	81	83
Comparison of birthplace to current residence	•											
Geographic mobility (details vary)		•		•	•			•				•
C. Education												
Highest grade completed	•							•				
High school curriculum	•											
College (year last attended, earned degree , highest degree received)								•				
D. Training Outside Regular School												
Has R taken	•	•		•	•			•			•	
Type of training	•	•		•	•			•			•	
Sponsor of training		•		•	•			•			•	
Duration	•	•		•	•			•			•	
Hours per week attended		•		•	•			•			•	
Did R complete	•	•		•	•			•			•	
Reason decided to take		•		•	•			•			•	
Does R use training on current job	•	•		•	•			•			•	
E. Health and Physical Condition												
Self-rating of health	•			•					•	•	•	•
Comparison of R's condition with past		•			•			•	•	•	•	•

Table 6. (continued)

Variable	66	67	68	69	71	73	75	76	78	80	81	83
Attitude toward health condition								*	*	*	*	*
Does health limit work	*			*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Duration of health limitations	*			*	*			*			*	
Problems (activities, things that bother, working conditions)					*			*			*	
Medical care (eligibility for insurance benefits)											*	
Accidents (on-the-job, how, when)								*				
Does health permit R/wife to go outdoors, use public transportation, or personal care without help					*			*			*	
Does wife's health limit her work	*			*	*			*			*	*
Duration of wife's limitations	*			*	*			*			*	
Does health of family members limit R's work					*							
Does health of wife limit R's work					*			*			*	
F. Marital and Family Characteristics												
Marital status	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Marital history (details vary)								*			*	
Number of dependents	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Life status of R's/wife's parents	*	*		*	*			*			*	
Number/ages of children in household	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Table 6. (continued)

Variable	66	67	68	69	71	73	75	76	78	80	81	83
Family members (relationship to R, sex, age, enrollment status, weeks worked, hours per week worked, occupation) (details vary)	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Unrelated household members (relationship to R, sex, age, enrollment status, weeks worked, hours per week worked, occupation, reason living together) (details vary)											*	*
Frequency of contact with children											*	
Wife's work experience (longest job, retirement expectations/plans)											*	
G. Financial Characteristics												
Total net family assets	*			*	*			*			*	
Total family income	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Income from farm/business	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Wage or salary income	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Unemployment compensation income	*	*		*	*			*			*	*
Income from supplemental unemployment benefits								*			*	
Income from rent, interest, or dividends	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Public assistance income	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Disability income	*	*		*	*			*			*	

Table 6. (continued)

	Variable	66	67	68	69	71	73	75	76	78	80	81	83
	SSI income								•	•	•	•	•
	Total market value of food stamps received	•	•		•	•			•	•	•	•	•
	Social Security income	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Pension income	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Amount of financial assistance received from others									•	•	•	•
	Income from other sources	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
H.	Military Service												
	Dates of service								•				
I.	Attitudes/Perspectives												
	How does R feel about job	•	•		•	•			•		•	•	•
	What R likes best/least about job	•	•		•	•							
	Would R continue to work if had enough money to live on	•									•		
	What is more important: high wages or liking work	•											
	Rotter Internal-External Locus of Control score				•	•			•			•	
	Attitude toward women working		•			•							
	Attitudes toward selected aspects of life								•	•	•	•	•

Table 6. (continued)

Variable	66	67	68	69	71	73	75	76	78	80	81	83
Way feeling these days											•	•
Discrimination (R ever experienced, type, way in which experienced)					•			•		•		
Has R progressed, held own, or moved backward					•			•				
Have job pressures increased, decreased, or remained the same					•			•				
J. Retirement												
Leisure activities									•		•	
Expected age of retirement	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
R's plans after retirement	•	•		•	•			•	•	•		•
Compulsory retirement plan	•	•		•	•			•	•	•	•	•
Timing of retirement (reason R retired, did employer encourage, would R continue to work if allowed)								•	•	•	•	•
Attitudes toward retirement					•			•	•	•	•	•
Wife's attitude toward R's retirement					•							
Friends' attitude toward R's retirement					•							
Characteristics of current employer's pension plan					•			•				
Amount of expected retirement income					•			•			•	

Table 6. (continued)

Variable	66	67	68	69	71	73	75	76	78	80	81	83
Geographic mobility since retirement											•	•
Retirement preparation course											•	
K. Hypothetical Job Offer												
Would R accept	•	•		•	•			•	•	•	•	•
Hours per week would work					•			•	•	•	•	•
Rate of pay required	•	•		•	•			•	•	•	•	•
Kind of work required	•	•		•	•			•	•	•	•	•
L. Volunteer Work												
Has R done any volunteer work									•			
Number of weeks/hours per week performed									•			
III. ENVIRONMENTAL VARIABLES												
A. Residence												
South/Non-South	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Does R live in SMSA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Mover/Nonmover status	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Comparison of state, county, SMSA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
B. Characteristics												
Size of local area labor force	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Local area unemployment rate	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Table 7. Selected Variables by Survey Year: Mature Women 30-44 in 1967

Variable	67	68	69	71	72	74	76	77	79	81	82	84	86	87
I. LABOR MARKET EXPERIENCE VARIABLES														
A. Current Labor Force and Employment Status														
Survey week labor force and employment status	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Hours worked in survey week	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Weeks worked (time frames vary)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Usual hours worked during weeks worked	•	•	•			•	•							
Weeks unemployed (time frames vary)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Spells of unemployment in past year	•		•	•	•			•			•			
Weeks out of labor force (time frames vary)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
B. Characteristics of Current or Last Job														
Occupation, industry, class of worker	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Startdate/stopdate	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Hours per week usually worked	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Hourly rate of pay	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Commuting time and/or costs	•		•		•			•			•			•
Covered by collective bargaining				•	•			•			•			
Is R union member				•	•			•			•			

Table 7. (continued)

Variable	67	68	69	71	72	74	76	77	79	81	82	84	86	87
Shift worked					*			*	*		*			
Fringe benefits available								*			*			
Displaced worker														*
Supervises others														*
C. Work Experience Prior to Initial Survey														
Occupation, industry, class of worker, startdate, stopdate, and reason for leaving first job after leaving school (never married Rs)	*													
Occupation, industry, class of worker, startdate, stopdate, and reason for leaving longest job since leaving school (never married Rs)	*													
Occupation, industry, class of worker, startdate, stopdate, and reason for leaving longest job between school and marriage	*													
Occupation, industry, class of worker startdate, stopdate, and reason for leaving longest job between marriage and first birth	*													
Occupation, industry, class of worker, startdate, stopdate, and reason for leaving longest job since first birth	*													
Number of years since leaving school R worked six months or more	*													

Table 7. (continued)

Variable	67	68	69	71	72	74	76	77	79	81	82	84	86	87
D. Work Experience Since Previous Survey														
Occupation, industry, class of worker, hours per week, startdate, stopdate, and reason for leaving intervening jobs (details vary)		•	•	•	•			•			•			
Interfirm mobility (details vary)		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Promotions (any, effects)												•	•	•
II. HUMAN CAPITAL AND OTHER SOCIOECONOMIC VARIABLES														
A. Early Formative Influences														
Nationality	•													
Type of residence at age 15	•													
Person(s) R lived with at age 15	•													
Occupation of head of household when R was 15	•													
Highest grade completed by father/mother	•													
Occupation of mother when R was 15	•													
B. Migration														
Years at current residence	•													
Comparison of birthplace to current residence	•													
Geographic mobility (details vary)	•		•	•	•			•			•			

Table 7. (continued)

Variable	67	68	69	71	72	74	76	77	79	81	82	84	86	87
C. Education														
Current enrollment status								•						
Highest grade completed	•							•						
High school curriculum	•													
Year of high school diploma or GED								•		•				
Math courses taken in high school										•				
College (attended, duration, hours per week attended, field of study, highest degree received)								•	•	•	•	•	•	•
D. Training														
OJT (did R take, duration, hours per week attended, did R complete)									•	•	•	•	•	•
Additional/other training or educational program (type, sponsor, duration, hours per week attended, reason took, did R complete, certificate, use on job)	•		•	•	•				•	•	•	•	•	•
E. Health and Physical Condition														
Self-rating of health	•												•	
Comparison of R's condition with past			•	•				•			•		•	
Does health limit work/housework	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Duration of health limitations	•			•				•			•			•
Problems (activities, things that bother, working conditions)				•				•			•			•

Table 7. (continued)

	Variable	67	68	69	71	72	74	76	77	79	81	82	84	86	87
	Does others' health limit work (details vary)	•		•						•	•	•	•	•	•
	Accidents (on-the-job, how, when)								•			•			•
	Does health permit going outdoors, using public transportation, or personal care without help				•				•			•			•
	Does husband's health limit his work	•		•	•				•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Duration of husband's limitations	•			•				•			•	•		•
F.	**Marital and Family Characteristics**														
	Marital status	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Marital history (details vary)	•							•			•	•	•	•
	Husband's attitude toward R's working	•				•			•			•			•
	Life status of R's/husband's parents	•		•	•	•					•		•		
	Number of dependents	•		•	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Information and/or update on all children born or adopted	•							•			•			
	Number/ages of children in household	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Child care arrangements (type, cost, preferences, attitude toward, hypothetical use, effect on work) details vary	•		•	•	•			•						
	Child care (extent of responsibility)						•	•			•	•	•		

Table 7. (continued)

Variable	67	68	69	71	72	74	76	77	79	81	82	84	86	87
Family members (age, sex, relationship to R, date of birth, education, school enrollment, weeks worked, hours per week worked, occupation) details vary	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Unemployment of husband (weeks)						•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•
Household activities (responsibility for, attitude toward, hours per week spent on) details vary	•					•	•		•	•	•	•		
Responsibility for care of chronically ill or disabled												•		•
Frequency of contact with family members and friends										•				
Unrelated household members (relationship to R, sex, age)											•	•	•	•
G. Financial Characteristics														
Total net family assets	•			•	•			•			•			
Total family income	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Income from farm/business	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Wages or salary income	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Unemployment compensation income	•		•	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Income from supplemental unemployment benefits								•			•			•
Income from public assistance	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Social Security income	•		•	•	•			•			•	•	•	•

Table 7. (continued)

Variable	67	68	69	71	72	74	76	77	79	81	82	84	86	87
Pension income	•		•	•	•			•			•	•	•	•
Disability income	•		•	•	•			•			•	•	•	•
Rental income	•		•	•	•			•			•			•
Interest or dividend income	•		•	•	•			•			•			•
Total market value of food stamps received	•		•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Income from AFDC	•		•	•	•						•			•
Alimony payments						•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Child support payments						•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Amount of financial assistance received from others											•	•	•	•
Income from other sources	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
H. Attitudes/Perspectives														
How R feels about Job	•		•	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•
What does R like best/least about job	•		•	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Would R continue to work if had enough money to live on	•		•		•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•
What is more important: high wages or liking work	•		•		•			•			•			•
Attitude toward women working	•				•			•			•			•
Rotter Internal-External Locus of Control score			•		•			•						

Table 7. (continued)

Variable	67	68	69	71	72	74	76	77	79	81	82	84	86	87
Way feeling these days									*	*	*	*	*	*
Discrimination (R ever experienced, type, ways in which experienced, practiced by employers) details vary					*			*			*			*
Has R progressed, held own, or moved backward					*			*						
Have job pressures increased, decreased, or remained the same					*			*						
I. Retirement														
Expected age of retirement									*		*	*	*	
Will R be eligible for social security or railroad retirement benefits									*		*		*	
Characteristics of current employer's pension plan									*		*		*	
Years employed in jobs covered by social security or railroad retirement											*	*	*	
Eligible for other pensions (type, number of years worked on jobs)											*		*	
Eligible for spouse's benefits (type)											*		*	
Expected age of retirement (spouse)									*		*	*	*	
Will spouse be eligible for social security or railroad retirement benefits									*		*		*	

Table 7. (continued)

	Variable	67	68	69	71	72	74	76	77	79	81	82	84	86	87
	Spouse eligible for other retirement benefits (type)									*		*		*	
	R or spouse have personal retirement plan											*		*	
	Sources of retirement income									*		*		*	
J.	**Hypothetical Job Offer**														
	Would R accept	*		*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*	
	Hours per week would work	*			*	*		*	*		*	*	*	*	
	Rate of pay required	*			*	*		*	*		*	*	*	*	
	Kind of work desired	*			*	*			*			*			
K.	**Volunteer Work**														
	Did any unpaid volunteer work						*	*		*	*		*		
	Number of weeks/hours per week participated						*	*		*	*		*		
	Organization worked for						*	*		*	*		*		
	Why volunteered						*	*							
	Activities aimed at changing social conditions										*		*		
III.	**ENVIRONMENTAL VARIABLES**														
A.	**Residence**														
	South/Non-South	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Table 7. (continued)

Variable	67	68	69	71	72	74	76	77	79	81	82	84	86	87
Does R live in SMSA	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Mover/Nonmover status	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Comparison of state, county, SMSA	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
B. **Characteristics**														
Size of local area labor force	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Local area unemployment rate	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Index of demand for female labor	*		*	*	*									

Table 8. Selected Variables by Survey Year: Young Men 14-24 in 1966

Variable	66	67	68	69	70	71	73	75	76	78	80	81
I. LABOR MARKET EXPERIENCE VARIABLES												
A. Current Labor Force and Employment Status												
Survey week labor force and employment status	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Hours worked in survey week	•	•	•	•	•	•			•			•
Weeks worked (time frames vary)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Usual hours worked during weeks worked	•	•	•	•			•	•		•	•	
Weeks unemployed (time frames vary)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Spells of unemployment in past year	•	•	•	•	•	•			•			•
Weeks out of labor force (time frames vary)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
B. Characteristics of Current or Last Job												
Occupation, industry, class of worker	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Startdate/stopdate	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Hours per week usually worked		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Hourly rate of pay	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Commuting time and/or costs						•			•	•	•	•
Covered by collective bargaining				•	•	•			•	•	•	•
Is R union member				•	•	•			•	•	•	•
Job Characteristics Inventory	•											

Table 8. (continued)

Variable	66	67	68	69	70	71	73	75	76	78	80	81
Fringe benefits available									*			*
Shift worked						*				*	*	*
C. **Work Experience Prior to Initial Survey**												
Occupation and industry of job held during last year in high school	*											
Occupation, industry, class of worker, startdate, stopdate, and reason for leaving first job after leaving school (details vary)	*											
D. **Work Experience Since Previous Survey**												
Occupation, industry, class of worker, hours per week, startdate, stopdate, and reason for leaving intervening jobs (details vary)		*	*	*	*				*			*
Interfirm mobility (details vary)		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
II. **HUMAN CAPITAL AND OTHER SOCIOCONOMIC VARIABLES**												
A. **Early Formative Influences**												
Nationality	*											
Type of residence at age 14/age 18	*											
Person(s) R lived with at age 14 (details vary)	*					*						
Occupation of head of household when R was 14	*											
Highest grade completed by father/mother	*											

Table 8. (continued)

Variable	66	67	68	69	70	71	73	75	76	78	80	81
Were magazines/newspapers/library card available in home at age 14	*											
Parental encouragement to continue education past high school					*	*			*			
B. **Migration**												
Years at current residence	*											
Comparison of birthplace to current residence	*											
Geographic mobility (details vary)	*	*	*	*	*	*			*			*
C. **Education**												
Current enrollment status	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Highest grade completed	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Reason stopped attending high school	*	*	*	*	*	*						
Is current school public	*	*	*	*	*	*			*			*
High school curriculum	*	*	*	*	*	*			*			
High school subjects enjoyed most/least	*											
High school activities	*											
Index of high school quality	*											
Index of college quality					*	*						
College (attended, highest degree received, field of study)							*	*	*	*	*	*
College tuition (full-time amount)	*	*	*	*	*	*			*			

Table 8. (continued)

	Variable	66	67	68	69	70	71	73	75	76	78	80	81
	Financial aid in college (types and amount)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			
	Reason R left college		•	•	•	•	•						
	Reason R's college plans have changed		•	•	•	•	•						
D.	**Training Outside Regular School**												
	Any training or educational program (did R take, current enrollment status, type, sponsor, duration, hours per week attended) (details vary)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Does R use additional training on current job	•	•	•	•	•	•			•			
E.	**Health and Physical Condition**												
	Does health limit work	•		•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Does health limit school activity	•		•		•	•	•	•				
	Duration of health limitations	•		•		•	•			•			•
	Problems (activities, things that bother, working conditions)						•			•			•
	Accidents (on-the-job, how, when)									•			
	Comparison of R's condition with past						•			•			•
	Does health permit going outdoors, using public transportation, or personal care without help						•			•			•
	Does wife's health limit her work	•		•		•	•			•			•
	Duration of wife's limitations	•		•		•	•			•			•

Table 8. (continued)

Variable	66	67	68	69	70	71	73	75	76	78	80	81
Does others' health limit R's work (details vary)						•			•			•
F. Marital and Family Characteristics												
Marital status	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Marital history (details vary)									•	•	•	•
Number of dependents	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Parents (life status, weeks worked, full-time, occupation)	•	•	•	•								
Number/ages of children in household	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Number of children R expects to have/considers ideal												•
Family members (relationship to R, age, sex, education, weeks worked, hours per week worked, occupation) (details vary)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Unrelated household members (relationship to R, sex, age)										•	•	•
Household activities (responsibility for, hours per week spent on)												•
G. Financial Characteristics												
Total net family assets	•				•	•			•			•
Total family income	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Income from farm/business	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Wages or salary income	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Table 8. (continued)

Variable	66	67	68	69	70	71	73	75	76	78	80	81
Unemployment compensation income	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Income from supplemental unemployment benefits									•			•
Disability income												•
Rental income												•
Interest income												•
Total market value of food stamps received										•	•	•
Income from AFDC												•
Income from public assistance										•	•	•
Amount of financial assistance received from others	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•	•
Income from other sources	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
H. Military Service												
Ever served in	•			•	•	•			•	•	•	•
Branch of armed forces served in	•			•		•			•			•
Months spent in armed forces	•			•		•			•			•
Military occupation held longest	•			•		•			•			•
How entered armed forces	•			•		•			•			•
Did military service help/hurt career						•			•			•
Rank held in armed forces				•		•			•			•

Table 8. (continued)

Variable	66	67	68	69	70	71	73	75	76	78	80	81
Primary training received (did R complete, duration, type, used on current or last job)	*			*		*			*			*
GI (VA) benefits (ever used, type)									*			*
Draft (classification, reason rejected)		*	*	*	*	*						
Disability (discharged for, service-connected, compensation rating)									*			*
I. Attitudes/Perspectives												
How does R feel about job	*	*	*	*	*	*				*	*	*
What R likes best/least about job	*	*	*	*	*	*				*	*	*
Facet-Specific Job Satisfaction Index										*		*
Would R continue to work if had enough money to live on				*		*						*
What is more important: high wages or liking work	*											
Would R like to receive more education or training	*	*	*	*	*	*			*			
Educational goal/expected education	*			*	*	*			*			
What kind of work would R like to be doing at age 30	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*			
Knowledge of World of Work score	*											
Rotter Internal-External Locus of Control Score			*			*			*			
IQ score			*									

Table 8. (continued)

Variable	66	67	68	69	70	71	73	75	76	78	80	81
Attitude toward women working						•			•			•
Discrimination (ever experienced, type)						•			•			
Has R progressed, held own, or moved backward						•			•			
Have job pressures increased, decreased, or remained the same									•			
J. Hypothetical Job Offer												
Would R accept	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•	•
Kind of work required	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•	•
Hours per week would work	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•	•
Rate of pay required	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•	•
III. ENVIRONMENTAL VARIABLES												
A. Residence												
South/Non-South	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Does R live in SMSA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Mover/Nonmover status	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Comparison of state, county, SMSA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Table 8. (continued)

Variable	66	67	68	69	70	71	73	75	76	78	80	81
B. Characteristics												
Size of local labor force	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Local area unemployment rate	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Accredited college in local area	•	•	•									

Table 9. Selected Variables by Survey Year: Young Women 14-24 in 1968

Variable	68	69	70	71	72	73	75	77	78	80	82	83	85	87
I. LABOR MARKET EXPERIENCE VARIABLES														
A. Current Labor Force and Employment Status														
Survey week labor force and employment status	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Hours worked in survey week	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Weeks worked (time frames vary)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Usual hours worked during weeks worked	•	•					•	•						
Weeks unemployed (time frames vary)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Spells of unemployment in past year	•	•	•	•	•	•			•			•		
Weeks out of labor force (time frames vary)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
B. Characteristics of Current or Last Job														
Occupation, industry, class of worker	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Startdate/stopdate	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Hours per week usually worked	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Job Characteristics Inventory										•				
Work schedule (hours, days worked)										•				
Shift worked					•	•			•		•	•	•	•
Fringe benefits available												•	•	•
Hourly rate of pay	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Table 9. (continued)

	Variable	68	69	70	71	72	73	75	77	78	80	82	83	85	87
	Commuting time and/or costs	*					*			*			*		
	Type of training for this job											*			
	Covered by collective bargaining			*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	Is R union member			*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	Did R ever hold unionized job														*
C.	**Work Experience Prior to Initial Survey**														
	Occupation and industry of job held during last year in high school	*													
	Occupation, industry, class of worker, startdate, stopdate, and reason for leaving first job after leaving school	*													
D.	**Work Experience since Previous Survey**														
	Occupation, industry, class of worker, hours per week, startdate, stopdate, and reason for leaving intervening jobs (details vary)		*	*	*	*	*			*			*		
	Interfirm mobility (details vary)		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
II.	**HUMAN CAPITAL AND OTHER SOCIOECONOMIC VARIABLES**														
A.	**Early Formative Influences**														
	Nationality	*													
	Type of residence at age 14/age 18	*													
	Person(s) R lived with at age 14	*				*									

Table 9. (continued)

	Variable	68	69	70	71	72	73	75	77	78	80	82	83	85	87
	Occupation of head of household when R was 14	•													
	Highest grade completed by father	•								•					
	Highest grade completed by mother	•													
	Were magazines/newspapers/library cards available in home at age 14	•													
	Parental encouragement to continue education past high school				•	•									
B.	**Migration**														
	Years at current residence	•													
	Geographic mobility (details vary)	•	•	•	•	•	•			•			•		
	Comparison of birthplace to current residence	•													
C.	**Education**														
	Current enrollment status	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Highest grade school completed	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Reason stopped attending high school	•	•	•	•	•	•								
	Is current school public	•	•	•	•	•	•			•					
	High school curriculum	•	•	•	•	•	•								
	High school subjects enjoyed most/least	•													
	High school activities	•													
	Index of high school quality	•													

Table 9. (continued)

Variable	68	69	70	71	72	73	75	77	78	80	82	83	85	87
Index of college quality			•		•									
College (attended, highest degree received, field of study)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
College tuition (full-time amount)	•	•	•	•	•	•			•					
Financial aid in college (types and amount)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Reason R left college		•	•	•	•	•								
Reason R's college plans have changed		•	•	•	•	•								
Math courses taken in high school												•		
D. Training Outside Regular School														
Any training/educational program (did R take, did R complete, type, sponsor reason took, duration, hours per week attended, reason not completed)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					
Other training/educational program (did R take, did R complete, type, apprenticeship program, sponsor, reason took, duration, hours per week attended)										•	•	•	•	•
OJT (did R take, did R complete, duration, hours per week attended)										•	•	•	•	•
Program enrolled in at last interview (type, did R complete, duration)												•	•	•
Is training used on current job (universes vary)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Table 9. (continued)

Variable	68	69	70	71	72	73	75	77	78	80	82	83	85	87
E. Health and Physical Condition														
Comparison of R's condition with past			•	•		•			•			•		
Does health limit work	•		•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Does health limit school activity	•		•	•		•								
Does health limit housework	•			•		•				•	•		•	•
Duration of health limitations	•		•	•		•	•	•	•			•		
Problems (activities, things that bother, working conditions)				•					•			•		
Accidents (on-the-job, how, when)									•					
Does health permit going outdoors, using public transportation, or personal care without help				•					•			•		
Does others' health limit R's work (details vary)						•			•			•		
Husband's health (limits his work, duration of limitations)	•		•	•		•			•			•		
F. Marital and Family Characteristics														
Marital status	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Husband's attitude toward R working	•				•				•			•		
Marital history (details vary)						•			•		•	•	•	•
Information and/or update on all children born or adopted						•			•			•	•	•
Number of dependents	•	•	•	•	•	•			•		•	•	•	•

Table 9. (continued)

Variable	68	69	70	71	72	73	75	77	78	80	82	83	85	87
Parents (living, weeks worked, full-time, occupation)	•	•	•		•	•								
Number/ages of children in household	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Child care arrangements (type, cost) (universes and details vary)	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•			•		
Number of children R expects to have/considers ideal				•		•			•		•	•	•	•
Family members (relationship to R, sex, age, education, weeks worked, hours per week worked, occupation)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Unrelated household members (relationship to R, age, sex)									•		•	•	•	•
Household activities (responsibility for, hours per week spent on)							•		•		•	•		•
Did R's husband ever hold a unionized job														•
Did R's father ever hold a unionized job														•
G. Financial Characteristics														
Total net family assets	•			•	•	•			•			•		
Total family income	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Income from farm/business	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Wage or salary income	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Unemployment compensation income	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Table 9. (continued)

Variable	68	69	70	71	72	73	75	77	78	80	82	83	85	87
Income from supplemental unemployment benefits									•			•		
Disability income									•			•		
Rental income									•			•		
Interest or dividend income									•			•		
Total market value of food stamps received									•	•	•	•	•	•
Income from AFDC									•			•		
Income received from public assistance									•	•	•	•	•	•
Alimony payments										•	•	•	•	•
Child support payments										•	•	•	•	•
Amount of financial assistance received from others	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	•		•	
Income from other sources	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
H. Attitudes/Perspectives														
How R feels about job	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•	•	•	•
What R likes best/least about job	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•	•		
Attitude toward homemaking									•	•		•		
Would R continue to work if had enough money to live on			•		•				•			•		
What is more important: high wages or liking work	•					•						•		

Table 9. (continued)

Variable	68	69	70	71	72	73	75	77	78	80	82	83	85	87
Attitude toward women working	•				•				•			•		
Facet-Specific Job Satisfaction Index										•				
Would R like to receive more education or training	•	•	•	•	•	•			•					
Educational goal/expected education	•	•	•	•	•	•			•					
What would R like to be doing when 35 years old	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
What would R like to be doing when 50 years old											•	•	•	•
Knowledge of World of Work score		•												
Rotter Internal-External Locus of Control Score			•			•			•			•		
Way feeling these days										•	•		•	•
IQ Score	•													
Discrimination (ever experienced, type)					•				•	•	•	•		
Has R progressed, held her own, or moved backward						•			•			•		
I. **Hypothetical Job Offer**														
Would R accept	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•		
Hours per week would work	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•		
Rate of pay required	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•		
Kind of work required	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•		

Table 9. (continued)

Variable	68	69	70	71	72	73	75	77	78	80	82	83	85	87
J. Volunteer work														
Did any unpaid volunteer work						•			•					
Hours per week worked						•			•					
Organization worked for						•			•					
Why volunteered						•			•					
III. ENVIRONMENTAL VARIABLES														
A. Residence														
South/Non-South	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Did R live in SMSA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Mover/Nonmover status	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Comparison of state, county, SMSA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
B. Characteristics														
Size of local area labor force	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Local area unemployment rate	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Index of demand for female labor	•	•	•	•	•	•								
Accredited college in local area	•	•	•											

Table 10. Selected Variables by Survey Year: NLSY 14-21 in 1979

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87
I. LABOR MARKET EXPERIENCE VARIABLES									
A. Current Labor Force and Employment Status and Characteristics of Current/ Most Recent Job									
Survey week labor force and employment status	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Occupation and industry (Census code)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Occupation (DOT code)	•								
Class of worker	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Start date/stop date	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Hours worked in survey week	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Hours per week usually worked	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Shift worked	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Hourly rate of pay	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Commuting time to current job	•	•	•						
Covered by collective bargaining	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Is R union member	•								
Availability of fringe benefits	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•
Reason for leaving last job	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Global job satisfaction item	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Job satisfaction scale	•	•	•	•					

Table 10. (continued)

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87
Job characteristics inventory	•			•					
Size of employer	•	•						•	•
Minority status of coworkers and/or supervisor		•		•					
Time R expects to stay at job	•	•	•	•					
Participation in work-study program	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Job search activities and intentions	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
B. Work Experience since January 1, 1978, or Previous Survey									
Weeks worked	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Hours usually worked per week	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Number of weeks unemployed	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Spells of unemployment	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Weeks out of labor force	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
C. Characteristics of Jobs with More Than 10/20 Hours per Week and More than 9 Weeks in Duration since January 1, 1978 or Previous Survey									
Occupation and industry (Census code)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Class of worker	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Start date/stop date	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Hours per week usually worked	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Rate of pay	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Table 10. (continued)

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87
Covered by collective bargaining	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Is R union member	•								
Reason for leaving job	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
II. HUMAN CAPITAL AND OTHER SOCIOECONOMIC VARIABLES									
A. Early Formative Influences									
Nationality and birthplace	•				•				
Ethnic self-identification	•								
Person(s) R lived with at age 14	•								
Year foreign-born Rs entered U.S.					•				
Occupations of primary male & female adult when R was 14	•								
Highest grade completed by father	•								
Highest grade completed by mother	•								
Birthplace of parents	•								
Were magazines/newspapers/library cards available in home when R was age 14	•								
Current and past religion	•			•					
Language other than English spoken when R was a child	•								
B. Migration									
Counties of residence since January 1, 1978	•	•		•					

Table 10. (continued)

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87
C. Education									
Current enrollment status	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Highest grade completed	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Reason stopped attending school	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Date of last enrollment	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Is (was) school public or private	•								
High school curriculum	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
College degree received	•	•	•	•	•	•			
Type of college attending	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Field of specialization in college	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
College tuition	•								
Financial aid in college	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Attitude toward selected aspects of high school	•								
Courses taken during last year of high school	•								
D. Vocational Training outside Regular School									
Type(s) of training	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Duration of training programs	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Was training completed	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
Was degree, certificate or journeyman's card obtained	•	•							
Hours per week usually spent in training	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	

Table 10. (continued)

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87
Was training related to specific job				*	*	*	*	*	
Method of financing training				*	*	*			
E. Government Jobs and Training Programs									
Participation in programs	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Type of program	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Satisfaction with program	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Participation in program of aid on subsequent jobs	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Services provided by program	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Length of participation in program	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Hours per week and per day spent in program	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Amount of income from participating in program	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Aspects liked most/least about programs	*								
Reasons for entering/leaving programs	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
F. Health and Physical Condition									
Does health limit work	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Duration of health limitation	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Type of health problem (ICD-9 code)	*	*	*	*					
Height and weight			*	*			*	*	
Health care received by children					*	*	*	*	

Table 10. (continued)

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87
G. Marital and Family Characteristics									
Marital status	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Number of dependents	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Are R's parents living	•	•							
Occupation of father and mother in past year	•	•							
Weeks worked by father and mother in past year	•	•							
Education of family members	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Occupation of spouse	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Periods of living away from parents	•								
Extent spouse's work in survey year	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Age at which R expects to marry	•								
Changes in marital status since January 1, 1978 or previous interview	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Number and duration of marriages	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Number and ages of children living in household	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Expected number of children	•			•	•	•	•	•	
Number of children R considers ideal	•			•					
Spouse's current and past religion				•					
Number of marriages for spouse				•					
Effect of spouse's health on R's work				•					

Table 10. (continued)

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87
Health care during pregnancy (females)					•	•	•	•	
Fertility history				•	•	•	•	•	
Use of various birth control methods				•		•	•	•	
Record of pregnancies not resulting in live births				•	•	•	•	•	
H. Financial Characteristics									
Total family income in previous calendar year	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Income of R (and spouse) from farm or own business in previous calendar year	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Income of R (and spouse) from wages or salary in previous calendar year	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Income of R (and spouse) from unemployment compensation in previous calendar year	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Income from public assistance in previous calendar year	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Income from food stamps in previous calendar year	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Income from pensions and Social Security in previous calendar year	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Income from military service in previous calendar year	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Income from other sources in previous calendar year	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Possession of various assets		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Market value of assets							•	•	•
I. Military Service (Current or Past)									
Branch of armed forces	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Table 10. (continued)

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87
Months spent in armed forces	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Military occupation(s)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
ROTC or officer training	•								
Reserve or guard activities	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Pay grade and income	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Type and amount of military training	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Formal education received while in service	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Number and relationship of family members who have served on active duty					•				
Participation in VEAP	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Attitude toward military service	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Future military plans	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Why entered military		•	•	•	•	•	•		
Reason for leaving military		•	•	•	•	•	•		
Contact with military recruiters	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Type of discharge		•	•						
Enlistment/reenlistment bonuses received	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Civilian job offer at time of discharge		•	•	•	•	•	•		
Return to same employer after active duty with reserves or guard		•	•	•	•	•	•		

Table 10. (continued)

	Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87
J.	**Work Attitudes**									
	Would R continue to work if had enough money to live on	•								
	Characteristics of job R is willing to take (Rs unemployed or out of labor force)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Reaction to hypothetical job offers	•								
K.	**Educational and Occupational Aspirations and Expectations**									
	Would R like to receive more education/training;Type	•								
	How much education desired and actually attain	•		•	•					
	What kind of work would R like to be doing at age 35	•			•					
	Expectation of achieving occupational goal	•			•					
L.	**Other Social/Psychological Variables**									
	Knowledge of World of Work score	•								
	Rotter Internal-External Locus of Control score (4 items)	•								
	Attitude toward women working	•			•					•
	Rosenberg self-esteem (10 items)		•							•
M.	**Retrospective Evaluation of Labor Market Experience**									
	Perception of age discrimination	•			•					
	Perception of race discrimination	•			•					
	Perception of sex discrimination	•			•					
	Reason for problems in obtaining employment	•			•					

Table 10. (continued)

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87
N. Significant Others									
Person having most influence on R	•								
Responses of significant other to various situations	•								
O. School Discipline									
Ever been suspended from school; Date		•							
Ever been expelled from school; Date		•							
P. Delinquency, Drugs, and Alcohol Use									
Activities within last year (20 items)		•							
Income from illegal activities within last year		•							
Alcohol consumption in last7 days				•	•	•	•		
Alcohol consumption in last 30 days				•	•	•	•		
Drug use							•		
Q. Reported Police Contacts									
Number of times stopped by police		•							
Number of times booked or arrested		•							
Number of convictions		•							
Charges of which R has been convicted		•							
Number of times incarcerated; Date of release		•							

Table 10. (continued)

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87
R. Time Use									
Use of time at work, in regular school, in government training, in other training, in looking for work, sleeping and watching TV, and on household chores and child care			•						
S. Child Care									
Arrangements while at school/work/training				•	•	•	•	•	
Cost per week				•		•	•	•	
Number of hours and/or days per week				•	•	•	•	•	
T. Finding Current Job									
R looking for work or employed when found job				•					
Methods of job search used				•		•	•	•	•
Job offers rejected				•				•	•
Desired characteristics of job sought				•		•	•	•	
III. ENVIRONMENTAL VARIABLES									
Place of birth (South-Nonsouth)	•								
Residence at age 14 (South-Nonsouth)	•								
Region of residence	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Current residence urban or rural	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Current residence in SMSA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Table 10. (continued)

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87
Unemployment rate of local labor market	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
State of birth	•								
State or country of residence at age 14	•								
Birthplace of parents/state or country	•								

NOTE: Excluded from this table are the detailed geographic, work history, fertility, and child-specific variables which appear on the NLSY constructed data files.

Multiple Respondent Households

A number of households selected for both the original four cohorts and the NLSY yielded more than one respondent. The cross-indexing system utilized by both the Census Bureau and NORC which links households and respondents permits identification of such related respondents or 'pairs'.

Original Cohorts.

Listed below are the relationship identifications and the number of pairs (e.g., husband-wife, father-daughter, father-son, mother-daughter, mother-son, brother-sister) which existed among the four original cohorts at the time of the initial surveys.

Multiple Respondent Households in the Initial Survey Year of the Original Cohorts

1. Older Men/Mature Women Cohorts	579 pairs
husband/wife (same household)	492 pairs
father/daughter (same household)	11 pairs
brother/sister (same household)	3 pairs
2. Mature Women/Young Women Cohorts	1965 pairs
mother/daughter (same household)	1540 pairs
mother/daughter (diff't household)	308 pairs
3. Young Men/Young Women Cohorts	2505 pairs
brother/sister (same household)	1243 pairs
brother/sister (diff't household)	571 pairs
husband/wife (same household)	574 pairs
husband/wife (diff't household)	10 pairs
4. Mature Women/Young Men Cohorts	1671 pairs
mother/son (same household)	1620 pairs
mother/son (diff't household)	51 pairs
5. Older Men/Young Women Cohorts	988 pairs
father/daughter (same household)	963 pairs
father/daughter (diff't household)	25 pairs
6. Older Men/Young Men Cohorts	1099 pairs
father/son (same household)	1039 pairs
father/son (diff't household)	60 pairs

Note: Users should be aware that these cross-cohort matches represent unique samples for a number of research topics, but should be used with caution since they typically include demographically non-representative matches. For example, father-daughter matches include fathers who were at least 45 years of age in 1966 and daughters who were no more than 24 in 1968.

An Original Cohort Relationship Tape is available to researchers interested in utilizing this unique aspect of the NLS. The tape consists of six files each containing the following information: (1) an identification number for the household from which both respondents or 'pair' were originally selected; (2) a respondent identification number within the particular cohort; (3) the identification number of other respondents (in the same or other cohorts) who were selected from the same household; and (4) relationship codes which existed during each of the initial survey years. Two other pairings are possible: brothers within the Young Men's cohort and sisters within the Young Women's cohort. Users can identify these relationships by utilizing the following respondent identification numbers: brothers within the Young Men's Cohort: R 3.01, R 3.02, R 3.03, R 3.04, and R 3.05; and sisters within the Young Women's Cohort: R 21.01, R 21.20, R 21.30, and R 21.40.

The documentation packet for this Original Cohort Relationship Tape contains the data set names for the six files, the variables contained within each, a frequency count for each of the various relationship categories which existed during the initial survey years, and some of the decision rules which were used to select each of the pairs.

NLSY.

Since all individuals ages 14-21 residing in a selected household were chosen as respondents, the NLSY includes interviews with over 2,400 household units in which two or more siblings were part of the sample. Of the 11,406 civilian respondents interviewed in 1979, 5,776 respondents had one or more siblings who were also respondents. There were 3,336 respondents who lived in a household with one other NLSY sibling; 1,705 with two; 591 with three; 126 with four; and 18 with five. In addition, the NLSY includes a subset of approximately 300 matched husband-wife respondents or 150 pairs. NLSY information on multiple respondents can be derived from Ref.#s 1.50 - 1.61.

Special NLSY Data Collections

High School & Transcript Surveys (1979-1983).

A survey of the last secondary school attended by civilian NLSY respondents was conducted in 1979. Designed to supplement both subjective respondent information on educational experiences from the main survey as well as data from the transcript survey (described below), the school survey gathered information on: each school's grading system, course offerings, dropout rate, student body composition, faculty characteristics and qualifications, as well as respondent scores from a variety of intelligence and aptitude tests such as the Differential Aptitude Test, Stanford-Binet, and Wechsler Intelligence Scale. The 96 variables from this school survey are located within the SCHLSURV file on the main NLSY tape.

Beginning in 1980, with funding from the National Center for Research in Vocational Education, transcript information was collected for civilian NLSY respondents who were expected to complete high school within the United States. Data collected included high school course titles, course descriptions, and final grades for up to 64 courses taken by each surveyed respondent. By the end of the 1983 round, transcript data had been completed for 77 percent of the NLSY civilian respondents. These 320 variables can be found within the TRANSURV file on the main NLSY tape.

Additional information on both the school and transcript surveys is provided in the documentation item "High School Transcript Survey: Overview and Codebook" which contains background information, copies of the survey instruments, a codebook, and bibliography of resource materials.

References:

"The School and Transcript Surveys: Technical Report." NORC. Submitted to the National Center for Research in Vocational Education, The Ohio State University, 1980.

"Transcripts II: Technical Report." NORC. Submitted to the National Center for Research in Vocational Education, The Ohio State University, 1982.

"Transcripts III: Technical Report." NORC. Submitted to the National Center for Research in Vocational Education, The Ohio State University, 1984.

Profile of American Youth - ASVAB (1980).

'Profiles' is the term used to describe the Profile of American Youth study which was conducted in 1980 with the NLSY. In this study, the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) was administered to a total of 11,914 civilian and military NLSY respondents, representing a completion rate of approximately 94 percent. The study was sponsored by the Department of Defense and the Military Services in cooperation with the Department of Labor.

The purpose of 'Profiles' was to obtain current data on the vocational aptitudes of youth and to update national norms for the ASVAB. Previously, military recruits had been compared statistically to adult males tested during World War II. The Department of Defense and Congress, after questioning the appropriateness of using the World War II reference population as the primary basis for interpreting the enlistment test scores of contemporary recruits, decided in 1979 to conduct this new study.

The NLSY respondents were selected since they comprised an already existing nationally representative sample of young people ages 16 to 23. During 1980, the test was administered by NORC representatives according to strict guidelines conforming to standard ASVAB procedures. Groups of five to ten persons were tested at more than 400 test sites that included hotels, community centers, and libraries throughout the United States and abroad.

The ASVAB consists of a battery of ten tests that measure knowledge and skill in the following areas: (1) general science; (2) arithmetic reasoning; (3) word knowledge; (4) paragraph comprehension; (5) numerical operations; (6) coding speed; (7) auto and shop information; (8) mathematics knowledge; (9) mechanical comprehension; and (10) electronics information.

The NLSY main tape contains 33 PROFILES variables including individual number scores, scale scores, and standard errors for each of the ten sections. Sampling weight, test disposition, high school graduate status at Profiles testing and a composite score derived from four sections of the battery (the arithmetic reasoning, word knowledge, paragraph comprehension, and one half of the numerical operations section) can be used to construct an AFQT (or Armed Forces Qualifications Test) score for each youth.

The NLSY documentation item, "Profile of American Youth-Attachment 106" provides general and technical information as well as an annotated bibliography of related publications.

References:

FRANKEL, MARTIN R. and McWILLIAMS, HAROLD A. "The Profile of American Youth: Technical Sampling Report." Chicago: NORC, 1981.

McWILLIAMS, H.A. and FRANKEL, MARTIN R. "The Profile of American Youth: Non-Technical Sampling Report." Chicago: NORC, 1982.

McWILLIAMS, HAROLD A. "The Profile of American Youth: Field Report." Chicago, NORC, 1980.

Illegal Activities (1980).

The 1980 NLSY survey contained a special self-report index on respondents' participation in and income from such delinquent or criminal activities as skipping school, alcohol/marijuana use, vandalism, shoplifting, drug dealing, robbery, assault, or gambling during the previous twelve month period. Adapted from previously used self-report delinquency scales, this instrument was modified to accommodate the confidentiality issues raised by in-home administration and utilized an expanded response scale to differentiate very highly delinquent youth from occasional participants. A second set of questions measured involvement with the criminal justice system by assessing the extent of police contacts, resulting criminal convictions and sentences (probation, incarceration) received.

The 71 ILLEGAL variables are found on the main NLSY tape. Sections 15 and 16 of the 1980 questionnaire and the accompanying confidential "Form J" contain the delinquency and police contact questions. Crowley (1981, 1982) presents various tabulations of these data by sex, race, education and poverty status. Appendices within both reports discuss the development of the index, the specific procedures used to administer the confidential form, issues intrinsic in measuring delinquent behavior and criminal activity, and provide an analysis of the consistency of responses to the various delinquency and police contact measures.

Of related interest, the 1980 survey also included several questions on school discipline problems, i.e., whether the respondent had ever been suspended or expelled from school and when/if the youth had returned to school. These variables can be found in the M80VAR file.

References:

CROWLEY, JOAN E. "Crime and Delinquency: Descriptions and Distributions". In: Pathways to the Future: A Longitudinal Study of Young Americans. Preliminary Report on the 1980 Survey. Michael E. Borus, ed., Columbus, OH: Center for Human Resource Research, The Ohio State University, December 1981. [167]

CROWLEY, JOAN E. "Delinquency and Employment: Substitutions or Spurious Associations." In: Pathways to the Future Volume II. A Final Report on the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth Labor Market Experience in 1980. Michael E. Borus, ed., Columbus, OH: Center for Human Resource Research, The Ohio State University, December 1982. [173]

Alcohol Use & Substance Abuse (1982-1985).

With funding from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, questions were included in the 1982-1985 NLSY surveys which focused on the development of drinking patterns, consumption of various alcoholic beverages, and the impact of alcohol use on school work and/or job behavior. This ALCOHOL file of 45 variables is included on the main NLSY tape. Additional alcohol questions can be found on the various MXXVAR files.

In addition, an extensive set of questions on substance abuse, funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, was included in the 1984 survey. Information was collected on respondents' use of cigarettes and marijuana, as well as illicit and non-prescribed use of amphetamines, barbituates, tranquilizers, and other drugs. Questions included monthly use of marijuana over the years 1979-1984, lifetime use of marijuana and other illicit drugs, age at first use, and substance abuse on the job. The DRUGS file on the main tape contains these 157 variables.

References:

CROWLEY, JOAN E. "Demographics of Alcohol Use Among Young Americans: Results from the 1983 National Longitudinal Surveys of Youth." Columbus, OH: Center for Human Resource Research, The Ohio State University, 1985. [216]

MENSCH, BARBARA and KANDEL, DENISE. "Underreporting of Substance Use in a National Longitudinal Youth Cohort: Individual and Interviewer Effects." Public Opinion Quarterly 52,1 (Spring 1988): 100-124.

Child Assessments (1986).

With the support of the NICHD and several private foundations (the Carnegie, Ford, Grant, Hewlett, Rockefeller, and Sloan Foundations, and the Foundation for Child Development), the 1986 NLSY survey included the administration of an extensive battery of assessment instruments to the children of female NLSY respondents.

These assessment materials encompassed cognitive, socioemotional and physiological aspects of the child's development as well as information about the quality of the child's home environment.

During the 1986 survey round, assessments were completed with 4,971 children, or about 95 percent of eligible children whose mothers were interviewed in 1986. There are relatively large samples of children at all child ages below 11 and for all maternal ages below 28. It should be emphasized, however, that most of the older children were born to young mothers, reflecting the age constraints of the sample. The sample of children may be considered as representative of all children born to a nationally representative cross-section of women aged 21 to 28 on January 1, 1986 or all children so far born to women who were 14 to 21 on January 1, 1979.

The following 13 assessments were administered for each child of appropriate age in the household. Interviewer observations of the home environment and testing conditions as well as mother reports on each child's health and background complement these assessments.

Home Observation for Measurement of the Environment (HOME). This set of scales measures the nature and quality of the child's developmental environment. Some of the items are maternal self-reports, while others are interviewer observations. There are three versions: for infants (birth to two years); preschool children (three years-five years); and elementary-aged (six years and older) children. The instrument yields: a total score reflecting the quality of the home environment and mother-child relationship; two general indicators of emotional support and cognitive stimulation; and measures of several processes of the home environment. The infant version consists of six categories: maternal emotional and verbal responsivity; maternal acceptance of, and involvement with her child; materials for learning; organization of the environment; and variety of stimulation. The preschool and elementary versions tap the same dimensions and, in addition, provide a measure of parental modeling of maturity.

Body Parts. This scale measures the preschooler's (aged one to two years) oral verbal knowledge or vocabulary. For each of ten body parts, the interviewer asks the child to point to that part of his or her body.

Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test - Revised (PPVT-R). This test measures the child's hearing vocabulary of Standard American English. The interviewer says a word and the child, aged three years or older, points to one of four pictures which best portrays the meaning of the word. The difficulty level of the words increases as the child goes through the test.

Memory for Location. This test measures the child's short-term memory. The child, aged eight months to three years, 11 months, watches as a figure is placed under one of two to six cups. The cups are screened from view for zero to 15 seconds; the child then selects the cup hiding the figure. Items have increasing levels of difficulty due to the increased number of alternative cups and/or the increased length of time during which the cups are hidden from view.

McCarthy Scale of Children's Abilities: Verbal Memory Subscale. This assessment of short-term verbal memory consists of two parts. First, the child aged from three years to six years, 11 months repeats words or sentences said by the interviewer. Second, the child listens to and then retells the essential aspects of a short story. This measures the child's ability to remember verbal material over a short time span.

Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children-Revised: Digit Span Subscale. There are two parts to this measure of short-term memory for children aged seven and older. First, the child listens to and repeats a sequence of numbers said by the interviewer. In the second part, the child listens to a sequence of numbers and repeats it in reverse order. In both parts, the length of the sequence of numbers increases as the child responds correctly.

Peabody Individual Achievement Test (PIAT): Math Subscale. This subtest measures ability in mathematics as taught in mainstream education. It consists of 84 multiple-choice items, each with four options, and increasing in difficulty. It begins with such early skills as recognizing numerals and progresses to measuring advanced concepts in geometry and trigonometry. The child, aged five and older, looks at a problem and then points to the answer.

Peabody Individual Achievement Test (PIAT): Reading Recognition Subscale. This subtest measures ability in oral reading. It contains 84 items, each with four options, which range in difficulty from preschool to high school levels. Skills assessed include matching letters, naming letters, and reading single words aloud. Children aged five years old and older read a word silently and then say it out loud.

Peabody Individual Achievement Test (PIAT): Reading Comprehension Subscale. This subtest measures the ability to derive meaning from printed words that are read silently. For each of the 66 items of increasing difficulty, the five year old or older child silently reads a sentence once and then selects one of four pictures which best portrays the meaning of the sentence.

Temperament. This set of maternal-report scales measures the temperament or behavioral style of children under age seven. 'How my infant usually acts' addresses the activity, predictability, fearfulness, positive affect, and irritability of the zero-11 month old child. 'How my toddler usually acts' addresses the fearfulness, positive affect, and irritability of the 12-23 month old child. 'How my child usually acts' measures the compliance, affect, attachment, and sleep problems of children aged two years to six years, 11 months. For all children, the interviewer also rates the child's shyness at first meeting, shyness at end of session, cooperation with assessment, interest and motivation during assessment, persistence during assessment, and attitude about and rapport with the interviewer during the assessment.

Behavior Problems Index. This is a rating scale completed by the child's mother concerning six areas of problem behavior of children aged four years and older. The three-choice items rate the child's antisocial, anxious/depressed, hyperactive, stubborn/parental conflicting, immature/dependent, and social withdrawing/peer conflicting behavior.

Perceived Competence Scale for Children/Self-Perception Profile. This self-report magnitude estimation scale measures the child's perceived competence in the academic skill domain and the child's sense of general self-worth. Children aged eight years and older answer the questions in these two domains by first selecting one of two alternatives describing how they usually act, and then by indicating how true that alternative is of themselves.

Motor and Social Development. This scale measures developmental milestones in the areas of motor, cognitive, communication, and social development. One overall developmental score covers the ages from birth to 3 years, 11 months. The items are age-graded.

The Child Assessment Raw Item File contains approximately 1,500 variables or item responses to the various assessment instruments. While the file is constructed with the child as the unit of observation, identification numbers of both the child and mother are provided to facilitate use with the Merged Child-Mother Data File as well as with other NLSY files. Assessment scores based on these raw data are provided on the Merged Child-Mother File described below.

The data on this 1986 Child Raw Item File are exactly as collected by NORC and not always consistent with the assessment data and scores included on the Merged Child-Mother File. Data on this second file have undergone a series of internal consistency checks whereas the data on the raw file have not. Given the many currently undefined uses of the data, it was felt to be preferable to leave the raw assessment data unchanged so that individual researchers could alter the original data in a manner consistent with their needs. There are, however, eleven variables that have been cleaned and these revised variables are included at the end of each case. These variables include the child's age and interview dates.

Documentation consists of a codebook identifying each variable, the questionnaire number, and response frequencies as well as copies of the Child Supplement and Mother Supplement interview schedules. A Child Assessment Packet comprised of copies of the relevant interview schedules (the Mother and Child Supplements as well as the main 1986 NLSY questionnaire) can be ordered by those exploring the applicability of the 1986 child assessments for their research needs.

References:

NLSY Child Handbook & User's Guide. Columbus, OH: Center for Human Resource Research, The Ohio State University, 1988. [1005]

"Child Assessment Measures in the 1986 NLSY: Criteria for Inclusion and a Summary Description." Columbus, OH: Center for Human Resource Research, 1987.

Constructed NLSY Data Files

Supplemental Geocode Data Tapes (1979-1987).

Geographic-environmental data for NLSY respondents can be found within both the main NLSY files and the supplemental geocode data tapes. The NLSY main tape contains, for all survey years, the following geographic-environmental information on each respondent: region of residence; whether current residence is urban or rural; whether current residence is in a SMSA; and unemployment rate of the local labor market. In addition, the following data was collected in the initial survey year: south/nonsouth place of birth; state/country and south/nonsouth residence at age 14; state of birth; and state/country of parents' birthplace. These variables can be found in the FAMBKGN and KEYVARS files on the main NLSY tape.

Note to Users Tracking Geographic Mobility across Survey Years: In June 1981, the Office of Management and Budget announced the designation of 36 new SMSAs, the disqualification of one pre-existing SMSA, and the merger of two pre-existing SMSAs into one new area. Our reference files were updated to reflect these changes and the updates were applied beginning with the respondent's 1980 interview place of residence. One consequence of these changes is that some respondents give the appearance of moving into (or out of) an SMSA between 1979 and 1980 when in fact they might not have moved at all. This faulty inference of mobility would be reached if one compared changes in SMSA designation over these years (R2152. in 1979 and R3935.20 in 1980). A total of 173 respondents are affected by this change. Beginning with the 1984 survey, additional changes will be made to SMSA designations incorporating subsequent re-definitions made by the U.S. Bureau of the Census as of June, 1983.

Certain information relating to the geographic location of NLSY respondents is, however, not included on the main data file since it contains individual county and state specifications which, in conjunction with other respondent information, might allow identification of a specific individual.

The following supplemental data tapes providing geographic variables from the NLSY main file along with selected variables from the COUNTY AND CITY DATA BOOK 1972, 1977, and 1983 are available to researchers willing to insure the confidentiality of these data:

1. The 1979-82 NLSY Geocode Tape contains approximately 2,200 variables including: the state, county, and SMSA of current residence; all residences since January 1, 1978; state or country of birth; current employer's state and county location; and a wide variety of county-level and SMSA-level environmental variables such as population size, labor force statistics, median income, educational characteristics, and crime rates extracted from the 1972 and 1977 COUNTY AND CITY DATA BOOK.

2. The 1983-87 NLSY Geocode Tape contains approximately 70 variables for each survey year including: the state, county, and SMSA/MSA of current residence; a select number of county-level environmental variables such as population size, labor force statistics, median family income, educational characteristics, and crime rates extracted from the 1983 COUNTY AND CITY DATA BOOK; as well as a few geographic variables from the NLSY 1983-87 surveys, i.e., location of military base, location of most recent college, and FICE code of most recent college.

As of the 1987 survey, NLSY respondents resided in all 50 states as well as outlying areas of the United States (e.g., Puerto Rico, Guam). The Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) Publication 5-1 standardized codes, which allows the researcher the opportunity to merge NLSY data with other data bases, was used to code state/county of residence.

Prior to purchase of either geocode file, geocode license agreements must be signed by both the researcher(s) utilizing these data and representatives of their respective organizations. Section 4 contains a copy of the geocode licensing requirements as well as a copy of the Geocode License Agreement. Three copies of this agreement, each with original signatures, should be returned to the NLS Public Users' Office along with an order form and tape specifications.

Variable descriptions, tape creation procedures, and coding systems are provided within the documentation package for each file.

Fertility Data & the Supplemental Fertility File (1982-1986).

The main NLSY data files contain a complete pregnancy history for female respondents as well as a record of live births for male respondents. In addition, data are available for varying years on the following fertility-related topics: ideal-wanted-expected number of children, dates of deaths of children, the wantedness status of each pregnancy, current contraceptive use, age at first intercourse, age at menarche, and participation in a sex education course.

The various types of fertility data collected have varied over the survey years. Detailed file descriptions of those NLSY files containing fertility data (CHILDREN, BIRTHREC, BIRTHR85, BIRTHR86, BIRTHR87) can be found in Section 4. Other related data within the NLSY include a marriage history and, for all live births to women, complete feeding histories, birthweight and length of gestation, and child care during the first three years of life. The relevant interview schedules and documentation should be consulted for the exact wording of questions as well as appropriate universes.

In 1982, with funding from NICHD, an extensive effort to improve the internal consistency and accessibility of the NLSY fertility data was initiated and resulted in the production of a supplemental file of constructed and edited fertility variables. Based on a review of discrepancies in the longitudinal data record, the edited variables include revisions to dates of birth, gender, and usual living arrangements for all respondent's children. The constructed variables include a variable evaluating the consistency of the longitudinal fertility record after edits to the 1982 variables were completed as well as a number of variables commonly used in fertility research: age at first marriage, age at first birth, spacing in months between births, and spacing between marriage and first birth.

This supplemental fertility file of approximately 300 variables has been constructed for the 1982-1986 survey years and appears as a separate file FERTILITY on the main NLSY tape. The 12,686 respondents in the file are sequentially ordered by public identification number to facilitate merger with the main NLSY data file. Variables through the 1986 survey round reflect the fertility histories of both male and female respondents and the pregnancy histories of the female respondents. The next update to this file is planned for 1988.

Documentation consists of a codebook and a numeric listing of variables. Additional background reports on the development of the supplemental fertility files and the several consistency checks completed during 1988 on the age at birth and marital history variables on the 1986 file are listed below and are available as special purchase items.

References:

MOTT, FRANK L. "Fertility Related Data in the 1982 National Longitudinal Survey of Work Experience of Youth: An Evaluation of Data Quality & Some Preliminary Analytical Results." Columbus, OH: Center for Human Resource Research, The Ohio State University, 1983.

MOTT, FRANK L. "Evaluation of Fertility Data & Preliminary Analytical Results from the 1983 (Fifth Round) Survey of the National Longitudinal Surveys of Work Experience of Youth." Columbus, OH: Center for Human Resource Research, 1985.

"Selected Tables: National Longitudinal Survey of Youth Cohort." Columbus, OH: Center for Human Resource Research, The Ohio State University, 1987.

"Inconsistencies in the NLSY Marital History Data - 1986 Supplemental Fertility File." Columbus, OH: Center for Human Resource Research, The Ohio State University, 1988.

"Inconsistencies in Age at 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Births on the 1986 Supplemental Fertility File." Columbus, OH: Center for Human Resource Research, 1988.

Workhistory Tape (1979-1987).

A Workhistory data tape which provides researchers with a week-by-week longitudinal work record of the labor force attachment of each NLSY respondent from January 1, 1978 through the current survey date has been constructed by the Center since 1985. Designed to be used in conjunction with the main NLSY data files, the

Workhistory data tape contains approximately 5,600 variables organized around three primary week-by-week arrays and other employment-related variables:

Weekly Arrays.

A Array: Labor Force/Military Status Each Week Beginning January 1, 1978

HOUR Array: Usual Hours Worked per Week at All Jobs Beginning January 1, 1978

DUALJOB Array: Job Numbers for Respondents Who Worked at More than One Job in Any Week Beginning January 1, 1978

Job-Specific Variables for up to Five Jobs for Each Interview Year.

Start and stop dates for each job

Usual hours worked per day and per week at each job

Usual hourly wage

Usual earnings for each job

Occupation and industry codes

Job tenure at each job

Class of worker

Reason not working

Whether each job is a government-sponsored job

Whether wages or salary of a given job were set by collective bargaining

Start and stop dates for periods not working

Reason not working for each period

Weeks looking for work or on layoff

Weeks not working or looking for work

Job number assigned to employer from last interview

Active Military Service Information.

Start and stop dates for periods of military service

Weeks of active military service as of interview date and in last calendar year

Key Variables for Last Calendar Year and Since Last Interview.

Weeks worked/unemployed/out of the labor force in the last calendar year and since last interview

Hours worked in the last calendar year and since last interview

Number of jobs in the last calendar year and since last interview

Weeks unaccounted for in the last calendar year and since last interview

Job numbers in the last calendar year

Additional Variables.

Respondent identification number and sampling weight

NLSY sample type

Birth dates

Interview dates and week numbers for current and last interview

Documentation for the Workhistory data tape includes: (1) a description of and codes for each variable on the workhistory data tape; (2) a discussion of the workhistory PL/I program logic and procedures; (3) a listing of the PL/I program that created the workhistory tape; (4) the workhistory tape record layout and condescriptives, (5) format specification; and (6) a listing of the "X numbers", i.e., variable locations on the 1979-1983 private tape here at the Center, with corresponding public reference numbers, file names, and question numbers which will assist the user in identifying the variables used in the Workhistory program.

Merged Child-Mother Data File (1979-1986).

This data set combines information on mothers and children from the 1979-86 NLSY surveys with the 1986 NLSY child assessment data. The unit of observation in the file is each of the 5,876 biological children ever born to the 3,322 mothers in the youth cohort as of 1986. The sample, when weighted, thus represents a cross section of children who have been born to a nationally representative sample of women aged 21-28 on January 1, 1986.

The Merged Child-Mother Data File contains approximately 3,400 variables and includes: (1) information on each child's family background, family employment and education history, household composition, prenatal and postnatal health care, child care experiences, and selected items and scores from the 1986 child assessment data; as well as (2) information on each child's mother's family of origin, marital history, income and earnings, household composition, health and deviance histories, and attitudes and aspirations. While some information is cross-sectional, many variables, particularly those relating to maternal employment, create a profile of the child at the date of each of the mother's interviews or at "key points" in the child's life.

The following are brief descriptions of the major categories of variables which can be found on the Merged Child-Mother file. The numbers in parentheses and brackets indicate, respectively, the approximate number of variables within each topical area and the range of child reference numbers to which the topic refers:

Key Linkage Variables (46) [C 100. - C 138.]. These items enable the user to connect the child-mother file with information attached to the mother on the main NLSY, the Workhistory, the Geocode, and the Fertility data tapes. Identification codes also enable the user to link children with other children on the child-mother file as well as with other interviewed female relatives of the child's mother who are respondents on the main NLSY tape. Mother interview dates and child ages at each survey date are included.

Child Background Characteristics (15) [C 150. - C 164.]. Demographic items for each child include sex, race, date of birth, birth order, date of 1986 assessment, and age and grade at the 1986 child assessment date.

Child Parental Background & Environment (71) [C 181. - C 251.]. Characteristics of the child's immediate family environment include mother's race, ethnicity, date of birth and age of mother and mother's spouse(s), measures of maternal intelligence, mother's residence, religious preference and church attendance.

Child Sibling Information (30) [C 252. - C 281.]. Sex and date of birth of each of child's siblings as well as spacing in months between births are provided.

Background of Maternal Family of Origin (68) [C 301. - C 369.]. These variables describe the ethnicity, education, prior employment, religious background, and residence of the mother's family of origin. Most of this information comes from the 1979 and 1980 interviews.

Maternal Marital History (49) [C 400. - C 448.]. Key variables on the mother's marital status at each interview date are provided as well as month and year of the beginning and end of first and second marriage. These variables enable the user to determine if the child's mother was ever married or ever divorced as well as the status and the number of mother's marriages at key points in the child's life.

Income & Earnings of Mother and Her Spouse (131) [C 470. - C 600.]. These variables summarize total income, earnings, and benefits of the mother, her spouse, and family at each interview date. In addition to information on AFDC, child support, food stamps and welfare payments, there is an indicator of family poverty status for each survey year.

Maternal CPS Employment Information (297) [C 627. - C 923.]. The following CPS characteristics for each survey week are provided: employment status, hours worked, occupation, industry, wages, benefits, and tenure. Reasons for not seeking employment are provided for all survey years 1979-1986 for those out of the labor force. A series of detailed maternal job characteristics are available only for 1979 and 1982.

Child Family Employment History (632) [C 924. - C 1371.]. Created primarily from the NLSY Workhistory data tape, these variables describe the mother's quarterly (13 week intervals) employment activity starting one year prior to the child's date of birth and ending with the 1986 interview date. They include weeks and hours worked, number of jobs held, occupation, industry, whether wages are set by collective bargaining and whether job is government-sponsored.

Family Education & Competence (151) [C 1400. - C 1550.]. Educational background of child's parents and other adult members of household as of each of the mother's interview dates. Included are maternal enrollment status at survey date; highest grade completed by mother, her spouse or partner, and other adults in the household at each date of interview; selected high school transcript information on mother's school absences, class rank and size, and test scores.

Maternal Household Composition (324) [C 1570. - C 1882.]. These variables describe the nature of the NLSY mother's household at the time of each interview. Variables include number of family members, family units, children and adults present at date of interview. There are also indicators of whether a spouse, partner, mother or father of the child's mother is present as well as the age of each household member under age 18. Some variables may describe the composition of the mother's household prior to the birth of a particular child.

Child Residence (8) [C 1940. - C 1947.]. These variables describe the usual living arrangement of the child at each of the mother's interview dates, i.e., whether child usually resides with the mother or father or elsewhere.

Child Care 1986 (59) [C 1950. - C 1996.50]. This mother-report from the 1986 survey provides the types of current child care arrangements used for each child in the household, the overall family expenditure for current care, and a retrospective of child care experiences during the first three years of life for all children (of at least 1 year of age) born to the respondent.

Maternal Health History (58) [C 2000. - C 2057.]. These items describe the nature of any health problems and dates for calculating duration of limitations on mother's activity at each interview date. They also include such maternal physical traits as hair and eye color, height, weight, date of menarche and reports of shyness.

Child Prenatal Health History (86) [C 2070.10 - C 2070.96]. Information about mother's health and prenatal care during the pregnancy leading to the child's birth are provided. Variables include degree of alcohol use, smoking, exposure to xrays, and use of sonograms, amniocentesis, and dietary supplements during pregnancy.

Child Postnatal Health History (127) [C 2076. - C 2155.70]. Information on gestation, birth weight, infant feeding practices, illnesses and well baby care during the period immediately following birth through the 1st year of life are taken from the mother's longitudinal record and attached to each child.

Maternal Deviance History (233) [C 2161. - C 2392.]. This category refers to mother's self-reports of drug use, delinquency, and police contacts from the 1980 survey, drug use and its impact on work from the 1984 schedule, and self-reports of alcohol use 1982-85.

Maternal Attitudes, Expectations, Aspirations (178) [C 2401. - C 2577.]. This group of variables includes maternal birth expectations at each date of interview, knowledge of work in 1979, influence of other on future decisions, career aspirations, a 4-item subset from the Rotter scale of locus of control in 1979, the Rosenberg self-esteem scale in 1980, attitudes toward work and school in 1979, women's roles items in 1979 and 1982, and global measures of job satisfaction for all survey years.

Child Assessment Measures (515) [C 2641. - C 3123.]. Assessments of the cognitive, socioemotional and physical development of 4,971 children of the mothers of the NLSY are included. Also provided are evaluations of the quality of the child's home environment (the HOME - Short Form) as well as interviewer ratings of testing conditions. The assessment measures vary depending on the age of the child. Cognitive materials for the youngest children include a body parts identification, a memory for locations test, and a verbal memory subscale from the McCarthy. The older children have scores from the PIAT Math and Reading subtests, the Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test-Revised, and the memory for digit span subscale of the Wechsler. Assessments that evaluated the social and emotional development of children include temperament scales for children under age seven, a motor and social development scale for children under age four, the Behavior Problems Index for children four years and older, and a perceived self competence scale for children eight years and older. All individual item responses from the child assessments appear on the Merged Child-Mother file, with the exception of the PIAT, PPVT, Digit Span, and Verbal Memory. While all HOME items appear in their original form on the merged file, the dichotomous versions of these items used in scoring are not on the tape.

Marriage Transition Dates (114) [C 3200. - C 3318.]. This group of variables profiles the date and type of up to three the marital status changes reported at each of the mother's survey dates.

Maternal Spouse Characteristics (43) [C 3350. - C 3392.]. These variables, drawn from the 1982 marriage section of the main questionnaire, describe the educational, occupational, religious, marital, and health background of the spouse of the child's mother.

Father Contact with Child 1984-1986 (15) [C 3400. - C 3678.]. These variables identify, as of the 1984, 1985, and 1986 survey date for children living in the household of the mother, whether the child's father is alive, whether he is present in the household, and if not, the degree of contact the child has with him.

Childcare 1984 & 1985 (158) [C 3500. - C 3678.]. This childcare information is taken from the 1984 and 1985 main surveys. The variables describe childcare arrangements used in the past four weeks for selected children of parents who were either employed, in school, or in training at the survey date. Location and type of primary and secondary care, hours of use, nature of payment and grandmother utilization are reported in 1984. Location, type, payment, detail on group arrangements, and hypothetical care are available for 1985. In both years, limited information on location and type are reported by respondents who are not currently employed but who have an employed spouse.

A codebook which identifies each variable in the file complete with reference numbers, variable descriptions, frequency distributions, and questionnaire numbers, as well as a numeric listing of all variables, and the NLSY Child Handbook which discusses each assessment instrument in detail are provided to all data file purchasers.

References:

NLSY Child Handbook & User's Guide. Columbus, OH: Center for Human Resource Research, The Ohio State University, 1988. [1005]

MOTT, FRANK L. "Child Assessment Measures in the 1986 NLSY: Criteria for Inclusion and a Summary Description." Columbus, OH: Center for Human Resource Research, The Ohio State University, 1987.

Women's Support Network Tape (1983-1985).

A special data tape detailing the geographic proximity of the relatives, friends, and acquaintances of 6308 female NLSY respondents interviewed during 1983-1985 has recently been released. The data file was created at NORC and used by Dennis Hogan and William Parish in a study (Hogan 1988) which examined the influence of geographically close kin and friendship networks for never-married and married NLSY mothers. The tape contains the following variables for up to eight individuals who were reported by the respondent within the Locator Pages for each of the three survey years: (1) relationship to the respondent; (2) zipcode match; (3) phone number match; (4) city/state match; and (5) zone mileage. These discrete locating match variables were created by matching respondents' addresses and telephones with those of the individuals reported in the locating information. In addition, cross-wave matches of respondents' addresses were made yielding measures of geographic mobility from 1983 to 1985. The tape contains a data file and three text files containing the record layouts, codebook, and SPSSX control cards.

References:

HOGAN, DENNIS P.; HAO, LING-XIN; and PARISH, WILLIAM L.. "Race, Kin Networks, and Assistance to Mother-headed Families." Working Paper No. 1988-30, Population Issues Research Center, Institute for Policy Evaluation, The Pennsylvania State University, September 1988.

4

THE PUBLIC-USE TAPES

Under its contract with the Department of Labor, the Center has the responsibility for making revised NLS data tapes and documentation available to the research community at the marginal cost of producing them. In revising the data files, CHRR has been guided by the objective of making them readily usable by the largest possible number of researchers. This section summarizes the NLS data files which are currently available to the public and provides cost and ordering information. For those researchers actively involved in utilizing these data, the major characteristics of the revised data files are described, guidelines for data management provided, and Center services in data problem resolution discussed. Subsequent sections of this handbook provide information on special user services, NLS documentation and research publications which are available from the Center.

Original Cohort Data Files

Current Releases

Currently available data files for the original cohorts include: the 1966-1983 surveys of the Older Men; the 1967-1984 surveys of the Mature Women; the 1966-1981 surveys of the Young Men; and the 1968-1985 surveys of the Young Women. Release of the 1987 Young Women's and the 1986/1987 Mature Women's survey data is expected to occur during 1988-89.

The data tapes for each of the original cohorts includes the cumulative record for the cohort up through the release date. For example, the current release of the Mature Women's cohort would include all data from the 1967-1984 surveys. At each new release date for a given cohort, the data tape is revised to include not only data from the additional survey year but also corrections to any errors in the data. No single year data releases are provided for any of the original cohorts.

In addition to the main files, an Original Cohort Relationship Tape is available which identifies respondents from different cohorts who shared the same household during the initial survey years, i.e., husbands-wives, brothers-sisters, mothers-daughters, etc.

The upcoming releases of the Mature Women and Young Women data will be announced in forthcoming issues of the NLS newsletter and, for BITNET users, via NLSERVE.

Variable Attributes

To facilitate data retrieval, each variable, with the exception of such split variables as income and sampling weight, has a uniform length of four characters or bytes. Variable numbers (Vbl#) have been assigned to identify the relative location of each variable within a record. While additional variables will be added in subsequent releases of the data tapes, these will be assigned new variable numbers. Variable numbers, once assigned, will not be changed unless it is necessary to do so to correct an error. Thus, the physical location or absolute address of a given variable can be determined very simply from this information:

Variable Location = (X-1) * 4 + 1 where X is the variable number.

Tape Format

Several alternative tape formats are available to accommodate a wide variety of computer processing installations. The standard options, identified on the NLS Tape Order Form, involve various combinations of alternative tape recording and coding techniques. In all cases, however, one logical record will contain all the data accumulated for a given respondent. The length of each record is determined by the number of variables for each respondent which is constant for a given release. Thus, every release of the Mature Women's cohort, for example, will consist of 5,083 fixed-length records. Users should assume that the logical record size will approximate 20,000 to 32,000 for each of the original cohorts. Note: Efforts are now underway to produce CD-ROMs for the Original Cohorts. Release dates will be announced in the NLS newsletter.

The following FORTRAN example, which is applicable only to the EBCDIC option, illustrates the advantages of fixed length variables identified by variable numbers.

```
        REAL*4  X(1500)
        READ (2,1)  X
1       FORMAT  (15(100F4.0))
        IF (X(530) .LE. 0.) GO TO 10
        RATIO = (X(119) +X(1485)) / X(530)
        C RATIO INVOLVES VBL#'S 119,1485, AND 530
10      CONTINUE
```

The following is a SAS example:

```
DATA;  INFILE ININ;
INPUT(AGE RACE MARSTA AREARES UNEMPR OCCUP)
(@93 4*4. @129 4. @397 4.)
FILE OUTOUT;
PUT(AGE RACE MARSTA AREARES UNEMPR OCCUP) (@1 6*4.);
/*
//
```

Other conventions which have been followed to facilitate data processing include:

1. The only characters which occur on the tapes are: -, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9.
2. All values are represented as integers. Some variables (e.g., HOURLY RATE OF PAY) may have an implied decimal, but no fractions occur.
3. Codes are padded with high-order zeroes.
4. Negative codes are indicated by a minus sign (-) in the leftmost byte.

An apparent contradiction to the fixed-length rule is the fact that some variables have values which require more than four characters. To accommodate these "split" variables, two contiguous variable locations are used to contain the data. Except for the sampling weight (seven characters), the only variables that exceed four characters as of the present writing are certain monetary variables.

In a split variable, the leftmost location contains the thousands portion of the value; the rightmost location contains the remainder. When the value is negative, both "subvariables" contain a minus sign. To illustrate, if variable numbers 57 and 58 identify a split income variable, then

$$\text{INCOME} = 1000 * X(57) + X(58)$$

would determine the true value of the variable. The table on the following page illustrates how representative values are coded as split and as nonsplit variables.

Representation of Some Typical Values Encoded in EBCDIC

Value	Variables		Nonsplit Variables
	X(I)	X(I + L)	X(I)
0	0000	0000	0000
8	0000	0008	0008
1000	0001	0000	1000
1234	0001	0234	1234
22333	0022	0333	must be split
345678	0345	0678	must be split
-1	-000	-001	-001
-235	-000	-235	-235
-2345	-002	-345	must be split
-98765	-098	-765	must be split

The floating point binary option is strongly recommended for those researchers whose computer installations are compatible with the IBM operating system. Users will find this option particularly attractive since it presents a core image of the data.

The following FORTRAN example uses floating binary data:

```
                 REAL*4  X(1300), NA, DK
                 NA = -(16.**10)
                 DK = -512000.
                 READ (2,1) X
        1        FORMAT (13 (100A4))
C       'A'      FORMAT IS ESSENTIAL IN FORTRAN
                 IF (X(17) .EQ. NA .OR. X(17) .EQ.DK) GO TO 10
                 IF (X(17) .NE. 0.) ANSWER = X(223) / X(17)
        10       CONTINUE
```

The following is a PL/I example using floating point data:

```
DCL   TAPEIN FILE RECORD INPUT;
DCL   X(1300), NA, DK   FLOAT DECIMAL(6);
NA = -(16**10);
DK = -512000;
RD:  READ FILE (TAPEIN) INTO (X);
IF X(17) = NA | X(17)=DK THEN GO TO RD;
IF X(17) = 0 THEN ANSWER = X(223)/X(17);
```

The following is a SAS floating point example:

```
DATA; INFILE ININ;
INPUT(AGE RACE MARSTA AREARES UNEMPR OCCUP)
(@93 4*RB4. @129 RB4. @397 RB4.);
FILE OUTOUT;
PUT(AGE RACE MARSTA AREARES UNEMPR OCCUP) (@1 6*RB4.);
/*
//
```

In the floating point binary option, there are no split variables, since none are needed. However, since there is only one version of the documentation there will be references to split variables. These should be ignored by those who have ordered the floating point binary option. In this version of the tape, the second variable location in such cases will contain hexadecimal 40404040.

Standardized Coding Conventions.

Several conventions have been uniformly followed in order to facilitate data processing:

1. Uniform nonresponse codes have been utilized:

   NA" is the convention used to describe the absence of a valid coded response. Substantively, "NA" can represent cases where (1) the respondent should not have a valid code since he/she was not in the applicable universe, and (2) the respondent has no valid code due to refusal, interviewer error, or coding, transcribing, or data entry error. All of these situations are coded identically with a value of -999. Split variables have -999 in each location, yielding a value of -999999. In the floating binary option, NA is uniformly coded with the value -(16.**10), or hexadecimal CB100000.

"DK" is used in the codebook to refer to responses of "DON'T KNOW." Such responses have been assigned the uniform code of -987. Split variables have -987 in each location yielding - 987987. In the floating point binary option, DK is uniformly coded with the value -512000, or hexadecimal C57D0000.

"# NEGATIVE" denoted the uniform number of negative codes exclusive of "NA" and "DK".

2. Multiple entry variables are coded in a geometric progression. For example, for the question "What have you been doing in the past four weeks to find work?" enumerators were instructed to mark as many of the following methods as were mentioned by the respondent.

Checked with public employment agency
Checked with private employment agency
Checked with employer directly
Checked with friends or relatives
Placed or answered ads
Other method

In the foregoing example, "public employment agency" would be coded 1; "private employment agency," 2; "employer directly," 4; "friends or relatives," 8; "ads," 16; and "other,"32. Multiple responses are then coded by adding the individual codes for each respondent which yields a unique value for each combination.

3. Dichotomous Variables of a yes/no variety are uniformly coded ("Yes" = 1; "No" = 0). Other dichotomous variables have frequently been reformulated to permit this convention to be followed.

4. Combined quantitative-qualitative variables, i.e., variables which are ostensibly quantitative but which may have several nonquantitative (categorical) responses, utilize positive integers equaling the actual values for the quantitative responses and negative values, beginning with -1, for the qualitative (categorical) responses. For example, expected age of retirement is coded as follows:

45 THRU 99 actual age
-1 already retired
-2 never plan to retire

5. In the questionnaires and in the Census versions of the data files, the responses to some questions were coded in such as way as to require reference to the response to another question. For example, in the case of the men, if respondent's job at the time of the 1966 survey was the longest job he had held between leaving school and the

time of the 1966 survey, the occupation of longest job was coded by Census "same as current job." Otherwise, the actual three-digit occupation code was coded. In the CHRR data files, no such cross-referencing is required. In the above illustration, "occupation of longest job" is given the three-digit code of "current job" in those instances where current and longest job are the same.

6. Pursuant to Census regulations relating to confidentiality, income values above a certain level have been truncated. During the first years of the survey, high dollar amounts were reported as given by the respondent. In the early 70s, all such variables were edited so that values in excess of $50,000 were coded as $50,000 or $50.001. Since the mid-80s, Census has raised this limit to $100,000 to compensate for inflation.

NLSY Main & Constructed Data Files

Current Releases

The NLSY main data files are currently available for the 1979-1987 survey years. Single year files for 1986 and 1987 are also available for users who have acquired data from previous survey years and wish only to update their existing files. In addition to the main files, the following special tapes and constructed data files are available: the 1979-87 Workhistory tape, the 1979-1987 Geocode tapes, the 1986 Child Assessment Raw Item File, the 1979-1986 Merged Child-Mother Data File, and the 1983-1985 Women's Support Network Tape. The projected release date for the NLSY 1988 data, including the 1988 child files, is the late fall of 1989.

NLSY File Structure

The large number of respondents and data items in the youth cohort clearly offers several research advantages. However, providing such data in a form that can be used effectively on a variety of computer systems is a serious problem. In order to better store, retrieve, and maintain such a large collection of data, the Center installed a Data Base Management System (DBMS) called SIR (Scientific Information Retrieval, Chicago, Illinois). Two years were spent designing a data base structure that divided the data logically into subject areas or "record types." This new data base structure, which was used for the first time with the 1984 release, allows variables relating to the same topic to be physically located in a single record type in a single file and so reflects more closely the longitudinal nature of the data.

As of the 1987 release, data from the NLSY are arranged in 52 files. Table 11. on the following page lists each file in order as it appears on the tape along with its file name and a brief description of the data contained in each. Each of the 52 files (e.g., CPS, JOBS, INCOME, CHILDCAR, etc.) has 12,686 records or "cases". Each variable ranges in length from two to seven characters. The respondent identification code is the first variable in each file and each file is ordered by this ID. Even if the respondent is a non-interview in a particular year, the case exists in the file.

Prospective users should be aware that every item relating to a particular subject area will not necessarily be found in the record type with the appropriate generic name. The following decision rules have been utilized in creating the the NLSY file structure:

1. Questions which have been asked or variables which have been created in an identical manner in either each survey year or in multiple survey years have been placed within repeating record types. Of the 52 files, the following nineteen are composed of such longitudinal data: KEYVARS, CPS, JOBS, JOBINFO, PERIODNW, SCHOOL, INCOME, ASSETS, CRFBIO, CRFNBIO, HHRECORD, BTWNJOBS, GOVJOBS, GOVTRAIN, TRANSURV, MILITARY, TRAINING, ALCOHOL, and INTRMK. Thus, the KEYVARS file contains the discrete set of variables on a variety of topics which have been created by the Center from each survey year's data while the CPS file contains responses to only those questions from the 'CPS' section of each year's survey instrument which have been asked in a consistent manner.

2. A second set of files contains those variables which share some common research topic (MARITAL, HEALTH, CHILDCAR, DRUGS, PROFILES) or which focus on some common research need (COMMON, FAMBKGN).

3. All other non-longitudinal variables, i.e., questions which have been asked or variables which have been created only in select survey years are placed within year-specific MXXVAR miscellaneous files. There are currently nine such files, one for each survey year, e.g., M79VAR-M87VAR. The miscellaneous files represent groupings of unrelated sets of variables which have not been asked in a consistent manner over the survey years.

To assist the user in locating those NLSY files which contain data on common NLS research subject areas, the chart on the following page presents the 43 non-miscellaneous files grouped into ten topical clusters. Detailed descriptions of each topical file can be found at the end of this section. Included in these file description is: (1) file identification information, i.e., file name, generic name, survey years covered; (2) a narrative summary of the types of variables included in the file; (3) identification of the sources of the data, i.e., the section(s) of the questionnaire or other survey instruments which generated the data; and (4) reference to other files which contain variables on the same or related topics. The files are arranged alphabetically for easy referencing.

Table 11. NLSY Files 1979-1987

File Name	#	Type of File Information
COMMON	58	COMMON DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION.
KEYVARS	200	CREATED KEY VARIABLES 1979-1987
FAMBKGN	188	FAMILY BACKGROUND 1979-1987
MARRIAGE	248	MARITAL HISTORY 1979-1987
CPS	414	CURRENT LABOR FORCE STATUS 1979-1987
JOBS	87	JOBS 1979-1987
JOBINFO	1170	JOB INFORMATION - EMPLOYER SUPPLEMENT 1979-1987
PERIODNW	1155	PERIODS NOT WORKING - EMPLOYER SUPPLEMENT 1979-1987
LASTINFO	377	INFORMATION SHEET 1980-1987
SCHOOL	153	REGULAR SCHOOLING 1979-1987
INCOME	1135	INCOME AND ASSETS 1979-1987
ASSETS	63	ASSETS 1985-1987
HHRECORD	810	HOUSEHOLD RECORD 1979-1987
BTWNJOBS	318	PERIODS WHEN R WAS NOT WORKING OR IN THE MILITARY 1979-1987
DGRECERT	66	DEGREES AND CERTIFICATIONS 1979-1984
BIRTHREC	1431	BIRTH RECORD AND FERTILITY 1982-1984
BIRTHR85	680	BIRTH RECORD AND FERTILITY 1985
BIRTHR86	1080	BIRTH RECORD AND FERTILITY 1986
BIRTHR87	66	BIRTH RECORD AND FERTILITY 1987
CRFBIO	168	CHILDREN'S RECORD FORM FOR BIOLOGICAL CHILDREN
CRFNBIO	60	CHILDREN'S RECORD FORM FOR NON-BIOLOGICAL CHILDREN
CHILDREN	38	FERTILITY 1979-1981
M79VAR	858	MISCELLANEOUS - NON LONGITUDINAL ITEMS 1979
M80VAR	542	MISCELLANEOUS - NON LONGITUDINAL ITEMS 1980
M81VAR	548	MISCELLANEOUS - NON LONGITUDINAL ITEMS 1981
M82VAR	749	MISCELLANEOUS - NON LONGITUDINAL ITEMS 1982
M83VAR	727	MISCELLANEOUS - NON LONGITUDINAL ITEMS 1983
M84VAR	838	MISCELLANEOUS - NON LONGITUDINAL ITEMS 1984
M85VAR	632	MISCELLANEOUS - NON LONGITUDINAL ITEMS 1985
M86VAR	564	MISCELLANEOUS - NON LONGITUDINAL ITEMS 1986
M87VAR	440	MISCELLANEOUS - NON LONGITUDINAL ITEMS 1987
GOVJOBS	975	GOVERNMENT JOBS - EMPLOYER SUPPLEMENT 1979-1987
PROFILES	33	PROFILES - ASVAB VOCATIONAL TEST 1980
SCHLSURV	96	SCHOOL SURVEY
TRANSURV	320	TRANSCRIPT SURVEY
MILITARY	1295	MILITARY DATA 1979-1987
TRAINING	224	OTHER TRAINING 1979-1987
GOVTRAIN	612	GOVERNMENT TRAINING 1979-1987
CHILDCAR	537	CHILD CARE 1982-1987
HEALTH	215	HEALTH 1979-1987

Table 11. (continued)

File Name	#	Type of File Information
ALCOHOL	45	ALCOHOL USE 1982-1985
DRUGS	157	DRUG USE 1984
ILLEGAL	71	ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES AND REPORTED POLICE CONTACTS 1980
JOBFIND	477	JOB SEARCH AND JOB FINDING 1981, 1982, 1986, 1987
JOBSB478	12	LAST JOB LASTING 2 WEEKS OR MORE 1979
JOBSCHL	23	WORK EXPERIENCE PRIOR TO 11/1/78 1979
ATTINFLN	9	ATTITUDE OF INFLUENTIAL PERSON TOWARDS R'S DECISIONS 1979
ATTJBOFR	22	ATTITUDES TOWARD HYPOTHETICAL JOB OFFERS 1979
ATTITUDE	121	ATTITUDES TOWARD WORK, SELF, TRAD'L ROLES 1979-1984 & 1987
INTRMK	143	INTERVIEWER REMARKS 1979-1987
TIMEUSE	219	TIME SPENT WORKING, GOING TO SCHOOL, TRAINING, ETC. 1981
FERTILITY	293	SUPPLEMENTAL FERTILITY FILE 1979-1986

NLSY FILES BY RESEARCH TOPIC

1. Current labor force status, and work experience data files: CPS BTWNJOBS JOBSCHL JOBS GOVJOBS MILITARY JOBINFO JOBFIND KEYVARS PERIODNW JOBSB478	2. Education and training data files including the several education-related special survey files: SCHOOL PROFILES TRANSURV DGRECERT GOVTRAIN KEYVARS TRAINING SCHLSURV
3. Fertility, birth record, and childcare files: CHILDREN BIRTHR86 CHILDCAR BIRTHREC BIRTHR87 CRFBIO BIRTHR85 FERTILITY CRFNBIO	4. Military data files: MILITARY PROFILES KEYVARS M79VAR
5. Health related data files: HEALTH DRUGS ALCOHOL	6. Various attitude files: ATTITUDES ATTINFLN ATTJBOFR
7. Special data collections: ILLEGAL TIMEUSE	8. Income and assets: INCOME ASSETS KEYVARS
9. Background demographic and identifying information: COMMON MARRIAGE HHRECORD FAMBKGN	10. Interview-specific data files: LASTINFO ASSETS

Tape Format

NLSY data are provided in EBCDIC or ASCII format as well as SAS system files. Note: Users wishing to work on PC's will be able to receive NLSY data on Compact Disc-Read Only Memory (CD-ROM) units. This release of the NLSY is scheduled for early 1989.

The following is an example of creating an extract of variables from the NLSY SAS system files. If SAS transport files are ordered, it is assumed that these files will have been converted to local SAS system files by the user. The space allocation on all systems is very important for creating SAS SYSTEM FILES. See SAS USER'S GUIDE© about file size, memory, and work space requirements.

```
    /* IN THIS EXAMPLE, THE REFERENCE NUMBER IS USED AS THE        */;
    /* VARIABLE NAME; HOWEVER NAMES LIKE 'ID' FOR R0000100 AND */;
    /* 'SEX' FOR R0214800 COULD BE CREATED, USING ASSIGNMENT   */;
    /* STATEMENTS AS BELOW.                                   */;

    /* NOTE SAS SYSTEM FILES ARE READ WITH                    */;
    /* SET OR MERGE STATEMENTS.  SEE SAS GUIDE.                 */;
 OPTIONS  NOCENTER ;
    /* THE FIRST DATA STEP READS THE FILE COMMON              */;
          DATA ONE;
    /* LABELS ARE INCLUDED WITH SAS SYSTEM FILES AND EXPORTS */;
  SET INCOM.COMMON(KEEP=R0000100 R0214700 R0214800 R1890300);
   ID=R0000100;
  LABEL ID = 'PUBLIC ID';
          DATA TWO;
    /* THE SECOND DATA STEP READS THE FILE KEYVARS            */;
  SET INKEY.KEYVARS(KEEP= R0000100 R0215300 R0406700
  R0645800 R0897300 R1145800 R1521000 R1891700 );
   ID=R0000100;
    DATA THREE;
    /* THE THIRD DATA STEP READS THE FILE ALCOHOL             */;
  SET INALC.ALCOHOL(KEEP=R0000100 R0781100 R1023600 R1392900 R1776400);
   ID=R0000100;
    /* "INCOM" "INKEY" "INALC" AND "OUT" ARE 'LOGICAL NAMES'  */;
    /* WHICH TELL SAS WHERE TO FIND A FILE, TAPE VOLUME, DISK */;
    /* DIRECTORY ETC. SEE YOUR SAS SITE REPRESENTATIVE FOR    */;
    /* SYNTAX.  "COMMON" "KEYVARS" AND "EXTDAT" ARE THE       */;
    /* INTERNAL SAS NAMES OF THE FILE INVOLVED.               */;
DATA OUT.EXTDAT(KEEP=ID R0214700 R0214800 R0215300 R0406700 R0645800
  R0897300 R1145800 R1521000 R1891700 R0781100 R1023600 R1392900 R1776400);
MERGE ONE TWO THREE; BY ID ;
  /* THE FINAL DATA STEP MERGES THE FIRST THREE FILES         */;
  /* TO CREATE A SAS SYSTEM FILE ON DISK OR TAPE               */;
  /* TO CREATE SAS SYSTEM MISSING VALUES FOR "-5" NOT INTERVIEWED */;
  /* "-4" VALID SKIP ETC. THE FOLLOWING CODE MIGHT BE USED        */;
MISSING A B C D E;
ARRAY ALL _ALL_;
DO OVER ALL ;
   IF ALL = -5 THEN ALL = .A ; ELSE
   IF ALL = -4 THEN ALL = .B ; ELSE
   IF ALL = -3 THEN ALL = .C ; ELSE
   IF ALL = -2 THEN ALL = .D ; ELSE
   IF ALL = -1 THEN ALL = .E ;          END;
 IF R1890300 < 0 THEN OUTPUT OUT.EXTDAT;
  /* THE NLS YOUTH COHORT HAS 12686 CASES. IN THIS EXAMPLE    */;
  /* A UNIVERSE RESTRICTOR (R1890300) WRITES ONLY CASES       */;
  /* INTERVIEWED IN 1985 TO DATASET.                          */;
 PROC CONTENTS POSITION HISTORY DATA=OUT.EXTDAT;
 PROC MEANS N NMISS MIN MAX SUM MEAN VAR MAXDEC=4 DATA=OUT.EXTDAT;
```

The following is an example using SAS to create an extract from EBCDIC or ASCII data:

```
OPTIONS  NOCENTER ;
          DATA ONE;
           /* THE FIRST DATA STEP READS THE FILE COMMON        */;
           /* IN THE EXAMPLE REFERENCE NUMBER IS USED AS       */;
           /* THE VARIABLE NAME HOWEVER NAMES LIKE ID FOR      */;
           /* R0000100 AND SEX FOR R0214800 COULD BE USED.     */;
           /* THE @N REPRESENTS THE COLUMN NUMBER FROM THE     */;
           /* NUMERIC INDEX THE 5. , 2. ETC.IS THE FORMAT      */;
           /* 'FMT' VALUE ALSO FROM THE NUMERIC INDEX.         */;

  /* NOTE 'RAW DATA' IS READ WITH INFILE AND INPUT STATEMENTS.*/;
  /* SEE SAS USER'S GUIDE.                                    */;

INFILE INCOM;
INPUT @1  R0000100   5. @54   R0214700   2.
     @56  R0214800   2. @162  R1890300   2.;
  /*  LABELS ARE OPTIONAL                                     */;
LABEL R0000100 = 'PUBLIC ID'; LABEL R0214700 = 'RACE ETHNIC';
LABEL R0214800 = 'SEX'; LABEL R1890300 = 'REASON NOT INTERVIEWED 85';
DATA TWO;
/* THE SECOND DATA STEP READS THE FILE KEYVARS                */;
INFILE INKEY;
INPUT @1 R0000100 5. @14 R0215300 2. @100  R0406700 2.
```

```
@153  R0645800 3. @219  R0897300 3.  @304  R1145800 3.
@372  R1521000 3. @441  R1891700 3.    ;
DATA THREE;
 /* THE THIRD DATA STEP READS THE FILE ALCOHOL                 */;
INFILE INALC;
INPUT @1 R0000100 5. @26 R0781100  2. @50 R1023600 2.
     @72 R1392900 2. @92 R1776400  2. ;
DATA OUT.EXTDAT(KEEP=R0000100 R0214700 R0214800 R0215300 R0406700 R0645800
  R0897300 R1145800 R1521000 R1891700 R0781100 R1023600 R1392900 R1776400);
MERGE ONE TWO THREE; BY R0000100 ;
/* THE FINAL DATA STEP MERGES THE FIRST THREE                  */;
/* FILES TO CREATE A SAS SYSTEM FILE.                          */;
/* THE NLS YOUTH COHORT HAS 12686 CASES. THIS                  */;
/* EXAMPLE USES A UNIVERSE RESTRICTOR BECAUSE                  */;
/* ONLY CASES INTERVIEWED IN 1985 ARE INCLUDED                 */;
/* IN THE OUTPUT DATASET.                                      */;
MISSING A B C D E;
ARRAY ALL _ALL_;
DO OVER ALL ;
   IF ALL = -5 THEN ALL = .A ; ELSE
   IF ALL = -4 THEN ALL = .B ; ELSE
   IF ALL = -3 THEN ALL = .C ; ELSE
   IF ALL = -2 THEN ALL = .D ; ELSE
   IF ALL = -1 THEN ALL = .E ;            END;
IF R1890300 < 0 THEN OUTPUT OUT.EXTDAT;
PROC CONTENTS POSITION HISTORY DATA=OUT.EXTDAT;

PROC MEANS N NMISS MIN MAX SUM MEAN VAR MAXDEC=4 DATA=OUT.EXTDAT;
```

Standardized Coding Conventions

In order to facilitate data processing, the following conventions have been uniformly followed:

1. Uniform non-response codes have been utilized.

-5	Non-interview
-4	Valid skip
-3	Invalid skip
-2	Don't know
-1	Refusal

2. Dichotomous variables of a yes/no variety are uniformly coded ("Yes" =1; "No" = 0). Other dichochotomous variables have frequently been reformulated to permit this convention to be followed.

3. To insure respondent confidentiality, any income or asset variables exceeding particular limits are truncated so that values exceeding the upper limits are converted to a set maximum value. From 1979 through 1984, the upper limit on income variables was $75,000, and any amounts exceeding $75,000 were converted to $75,001. Beginning in 1985, the upper limit on income amounts was increased to $100,000 due to inflation and the advancing age of the cohort, and amounts exceeding $100,000 were converted to $100,001. During that same survey year, specific questions on assets owned by the NLSY respondents were added to the survey. The asset amounts have different upper limits, and the types of variables and limits for those variables are as follows: (1) mortgage, market value, and debt on residential property and total market value of assets each worth over $500 and miscellaneous debt over $500--$150,000 converted to $150,001; (2) market value and debt on a farm or business and savings--$500,000 converted to $500,001; (3) market value and debt on vehicles--$30,000 converted to $30,001.

Guidelines for Data Management for All Data Files

It appears that most researchers who acquire the files want to revise them by reformatting, subsetting, or creating new variables. Since CHRR can accept responsibility only for the tapes and documentation which it has supplied, users who intend to modify the data should develop a set of standard operating procedures to guarantee the integrity of the tapes furnished by CHRR. The following guidelines are suggested:

1. A copy of each original tape should be made as soon as possible. Changes should never be made to a tape received from CHRR.
2. All modifications should be carefully documented; programs and program specifications should be saved.
3. New output tapes should be used for all subsequent revisions. The data set name should identify the generation number and cohort of each file.
4. The addition of locally created variables will usually entail expansion of the logical record length. Since many users will later wish to obtain future versions of the data files from CHRR, which will contain both new variables and corrections to existing variables, user-designed modifications should be planned with flexibility in mind.
5. In subsetting, interrelationships among variables should be kept in mind.
6. The codebook should be kept up to date.
7. Any technical problems encountered in using the data tapes should be reported to the NLS Public Users' Office within six months after receipt of the tapes.

Clearinghouse for Data Problems

User Problem Identification

As research proceeds with the NLS data files, questions may arise concerning suspected errors in the tapes or the documentation. Users who identify what they believe to be errors in the content of the data files are urged to contact the Center in writing. The user should identify the problem as precisely and in as much detail as possible. The following types of specific information should be provided:

(1) a brief statement of the problem;

(2) the variable(s) in question identified by reference number(s);

(3) the universe of respondents;

(4) a copy of the computer output which gave rise to the question; and

(5) the name and telephone number of the person to be contacted in the event further information is required.

CHRR Problem Resolution & Error Notification

The Center will investigate all problems brought to its attention and make every effort to notify the public user in a timely manner of the problem's resolution. All known errors with corrections are announced in the quarterly NLS newsletter and are made available to BITNET users via NLSERVE. In addition, hard copy notification of errors which have not been corrected on the data files are provided within the documentation package. When substantive errors are discovered, the Center will notify by mail all persons who previously purchased the data file in question. If the error is of major consequence, an update tape with the corrected variable(s) is provided free of charge to Center purchasers. Researchers who acquire NLS data from other sources are encouraged to notify the NLS Public Users' Office that they wish to receive such error update notifications.

Tape Ordering Information

Persons interested in purchasing any of the NLS data files should complete the NLS Tape Order Form which can be found at the end of this section. Those wishing to purchase extra documentation items should attach a copy of the Documentation Order Form. Geocode file purchasers must submit three copies of the Geocode License Agreement with their tape order form (see the geocode license agreement requirements which appear at the end of this section for more information).

Both the original cohort and the NLSY files are available in a variety of coding conventions, labeling and density options. Users ordering any of the original cohort files at 1600 BPI should be aware that this results in files requiring as many as six reels of magnetic tape. All NLSY tapes are processed at 6250 BPI; users needing lower density should contact the Center's Data Processing Unit.

Single year NLSY data can be provided either as a flat rectangular file or in multiple record type format. Single year file purchasers are provided an update tape which contains those variables from previous survey years which have been corrected since the last release.

The following NLSY files are available as SAS system files: the 1979-1987 NLSY data files, the NLSY 1987 only data files, and the 1979-1986 NLSY Merged Child-Mother Data File. Users should specify on the order form whether they wish a SAS IBM file or a SAS Export file. Documentation for the SAS files is the same as that provided for the raw files.

Prices for the various NLS files are listed below. A check or purchase order must accompany each order. All tape orders include complete sets of documentation. Individual documentation items or additional sets of documentation can be purchased by completing the Documentation Order Form. Allow 14-18 days for tape delivery.

Original Cohort Tapes

Mature Women	1967-1984	$300
Young Women	1968-1985	$300
Older Men	1966-1983	$250
Young Men	1966-1981	$250
Original Cohort Relationship Tape		$ 10

NLSY Tapes

NLSY	1979-1987	$350
NLSY	1987 Only	$100
NLSY Workhistory	1979-1987	$125
NLSY Geocode	1979-1982	$ 50
NLSY Geocode	1983-1987	$ 50
NLSY Women's Support Network File	1983-1985	$ 25
NLSY Child Assessment Raw Item File	1986	$100
NLSY Merged Child-Mother Data File	1979-1986	$150

Note to OSU Users: All NLS tapes with the exception of the 1986 Child Raw Item File and the NLSY Geocode data files can be accessed by Ohio State University faculty members and students. Tape set-up information for those NLS tapes available through OSU is provided via BITNET. Those campus locations which have holdings of NLS documentation are listed in Section 5. An on-line manual entitled Magnetic Tape User's Guide (1984) is available through OSU's Instruction and Research Computer Center.

NLS Tape Order Form

Researcher: ______________________________
Organization: ______________________________
Department: ______________________________
Address: ______________________________
____
City: ______________ State: ____________ Zip Code: __________
Telephone: ______________

Indicate here whether shipping and/or billing addresses differ from the address listed above. Attach correct address labels to this order form.

☐ Different Shipping Address ☐ Different Billing Address

ORIGINAL COHORT DATA FILES

Please indicate the original cohort data files you wish to purchase. Complete documentation is included with each tape order.

☐	Older Men	1966-83	$250*	☐	Young Men	1966-81	$250*
☐	Mature Women	1967-84	$300*	☐	Young Women	1968-85	$300*
☐	Other: ______________________________						$

* Users should assume that the logical record size will approximate 20,000 to 32,000 characters; all tapes are 9 track. An additional $50 charge per cohort will be added for tapes purchased at 1600 BPI. New releases of the Mature Women and the Young Women are projected to occur during 1989.

Please circle the appropriate tape specifications. Questions should be addressed to the Center's Data Processing Unit at the telephone number/BITNET address listed on the reverse side.

Code Convention			Label			Density	
EBCDIC	IBM Floating Pt	ASCII	IBM Standard	ANSI	None	6250 BPI	1600 BPI

NLSY DATA FILES

Please indicate the NLSY data files you wish to purchase. Complete documentation is included with each order.

☐ NLSY Files	1979-87				$ 350
☐ NLSY SAS Files	1979-87	Specify:	☐ IBM SAS or	☐ SAS Export	$ 350
☐ NLSY Files	1987 Only	Specify:	☐ Multiple File or	☐ Flat File	$ 100
☐ NLSY Work history	1979-87				$ 125
☐ NLSY Geocode	1979-82				$ 50
☐ NLSY Geocode	1983 -87				$ 50
☐ NLSY Child Assessment Raw Item File	1986				$ 100
☐ NLSY Merged Child-Mother Data File	1979-86				$ 150
☐ NLSY SAS Merged Child-Mother File		Specify:	☐ IBM SAS or	☐ SAS Export	$ 150
☐ Other(s):	______________________				$ ___
☐	______________________				$ ___

Please circle the appropriate tape specifications. All NLSY tapes are processed at 6250 BPI. If a lower density is needed, please contact the Center's Data Processing Unit at the telephone number/BITNET address listed below.

Code Convention		Label			Maximum Blocksize	
EBCDIC	ASCII	IBM Standard	ANSI	None	16K	32K

Please return this order form with purchase order or payment to: the NLS Public User's Office, Center for Human Resource Research, 650 Ackerman Road, Suite A, Columbus, Ohio 43202 (614-263-1682 or USERSVC@OHSTHR).

FOR CHRR USE ONLY

Date Received	P.O. #	Invoice #
Total Order	Amount Paid/Check #	Date Mailed

NLSY Geocode Data Tapes Licensing Requirements and Agreement

NLSY Geocode Data Tapes: License Agreement Requirements

To protect the confidentiality of NLSY respondents, certain information is not included on the public use data tapes. Some of this additional information, specifically the NLSY geographic - environmental data, is, however, available for research.

The following two geocode data tapes will be provided to public users who complete the licensing procedure described below: (1) the 1979-1982 NLSY geocode data tape; and/or (2) the 1983-1987 NLSY geocode data tape. Complete descriptions of the content of these files can be found in Section 3 of the 1988 NLS Handbook.

Licensing Procedure

These geocode data tapes are available only to those researchers who agree to protect the anonymity of the respondents. Tape purchasers must be affiliated with an organization; individuals may not purchase these data files. Before these data tapes will be released, three license agreements for the use of the geographic data tapes must be signed by:

(1) an authorized administrative officer of the researcher's institution. This person must be authorized to contractually bind the institution, usually the president, or administrative vice-president; **AND**

(2) each designated control individual(s) at the institution, i.e., that individual or those individuals who will actually be using these data. NOTE: In addition to the researcher or researchers utilizing these data, additional control individual(s) could be the individual(s) in the computer operation responsible for physically handling the data tapes; **AND**

(3) The Ohio State University Research Foundation.

Persons interested in purchasing either or both geocode tapes should return three (3) license agreements, each with original signatures, as well as the NLS Tape Order Form complete with tape specifications, to the NLS Public Users' Office, Center for Human Resource Research, 650 Ackerman Road, Suite A, Columbus, Ohio 43202.

Upon receipt of the agreements, the NLS Public User's Office will forward the agreements to the OSU Research Foundation for signature. Users should allow approximately 14-18 days for delivery.

LICENSE AGREEMENT FOR THE USE OF NATIONAL LONGITUDINAL SURVEY YOUTH DATA TAPES WHICH INCLUDES GEOGRAPHIC MICRO-DATA ("DATA TAPE")

This agreement applies to:

(Unless one of the boxes below is checked, the agreement applies to both data tapes).

☐ 1979-1982 NLSY Geographic micro-data tape

☐ 1983-1987 NLSY Geographic micro-data tape

WHEREAS, the Center for Human Resource Research of The Ohio State University and NORC of the University of Chicago have collected data on computer tapes called data tapes for the United States Department of Labor under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act, the Job Training Partnership Act, the Youth Employment and Demonstration Act; Title 29 Section 2, USC; and

WHEREAS, all participants and respondents in said study were informed that results of the study will be made public only in summary and statistical form so that individuals that participated cannot be identified; and

WHEREAS, we intend to protect all participants and respondents in that "all information that would permit identification of respondents or their households will be regarded as strictly confidential, will be used only for the purposes of the study and will not be developed or released for any other purpose without prior consent, except as required by law"; and

WHEREAS, NORC and the Center for Human Resource Research wish to make the data tape(s) available for research purposes but only if used and protected in accordance with the principles stated above, it is hereby agreed between____(Tape Recipient's Institution) and The Ohio State University Research Foundation that:

1. Tape Recipient will use the data tape(s) which includes geographic micro-data solely for research purposes and agrees to abide by the principles stated above and agrees that any results or information obtained as a result of research connected with these data will be published only in summary or statistical form so that individuals who participated in the study recorded on the tape(s) cannot be identified.
2. No data tapes or related information containing geographic micro-data will be released to any individual, organization or person other than recipient except as provided under this agreement. Data tape(s) for the recipient will be under the control of [list here the names of the person(s) actually using these data]:

____

____

____

3. No copy will be made of the data tape(s) except by a person authorized by the control individuals identified in item 2 to have access. Then a copy will be made only when necessary for the purposes permitted by this agreement. A copy of this agreement will be signed by each such additional control individual and will be retained by the recipient institution.
4. No use will be made of any of the information contained on the data tape(s) in any direct or indirect way, so as to identify or attempt to identify an individual or other entity who is recorded on the tape(s).
5. No listings of information from individual records will be published or otherwise released. No statistical tabulations or research results will be released which reveal or attempt to reveal in any manner the identity of any employers, schools, relatives, persons, or entities. The object is to ensure that identification of any of these is prevented and to protect the confidentiality of all information provided by each recipient.
6. Tape Recipient shall indemnify and hold harmless The Ohio State University, The Ohio State University Research Foundation, NORC, U.S. Department of Labor, Center for Human Resource Research, and any employees or agents of the same against any and all claims for damages, demands, and all other actions and all expenses and costs arising from such demands whatsoever arising from the release of the data tape(s).
7. The tape(s) will be destroyed, unless other arrangements are agreed to in writing, when either the work of the control individual is completed or the control individual ceases to work for the recipient institution .
8. Recipient agrees that all information from the tape(s) will be protected under the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended.
9. Tape Recipient agrees to the above through his/her institution's duly authorized representative signing below:

Name of Tape Recipient's Institution:

____

Administrative Officer of Recipient's Institution Authorized to Bind the Institution:

Signature: ____

Title: ____

Address: ____

____

Telephone: (   ) ____

Date Signed: ____

First Control Individual Identified in Item 2:

Signature: ________________________________

Address: ________________________________

____

Telephone: (____) ________________________________

Date Signed: ________________________________

Second Control Individual Identified in Item 2 (if any):

Signature: ________________________________

Address: ________________________________

____

Telephone: (____) ________________________________

Date Signed: ________________________________

Third Control Individual Identified in Item 2 (if any):

Signature: ________________________________

Address: ________________________________

____

Telephone: (____) ________________________________

Date Signed: ________________________________

The Ohio State University Research Foundation:

Signature: ________________________________

Date Signed: ________________________________

NLSY Detailed File Descriptions

File Name: ALCOHOL ALCOHOL USE 1982-1985

Number of Variables: 45

File Description: This file contains the variables relating to each respondent's consumption of alcohol in the last month, how frequently it was used, quantity consumed, and whether such consumption has impacted school work or job performance.

Sources of data: The 'Alcohol Use' sections of the 1982-1985 questionnaires.

Additional Variables: See also the ILLEGAL file for data on alcohol use and the various birth record files for drug and alcohol use during pregnancy.

File Name: ASSETS ASSETS 1985-1987

Number of Variables: 63

File Description: This file identifies the asset information collected during the 1985-1987 surveys, i.e., types of and total market value of property owned by the respondent (i.e., real estate, farm, business), the value of other assets including vehicles and savings accounts, as well as the total amount of debts owed including mortgages, back taxes and debts over $500.

Sources of Data: The 'Assets & Income' sections of the 1985 - 1987 questionnaires.

Additional Variables: See also the INCOME file.

File Name: ATTINFLN ATTITUDE OF INFLUENTIAL PERSON TOWARDS R'S DECISIONS 1979

Number of Variables: 9

File Description: This file contains the discrete set of nine variables dealing with the attitude of the most influential person in each respondent's life toward certain key career, occupational, residence, and childbearing decisions.

Sources of Data: The 'On Significant Others' section of the 1979 questionnaire.

Additional Variables: See the ATTITUDE file for self-esteem and Rotter's locus of control variables.

File Name: **ATTITUDE** ATTITUDES TOWARD WORK, SELF, TRADITIONAL ROLES 1979-1984, AND 1987

Number of Variables: 121

File Description: This file contains an assortment of variables from the various survey years dealing with each respondent's knowledge of the world of work, perceived problems in getting a good job, the Rotter internal-external locus of control scale, respondent's attitudes toward women and work, occupational aspirations, work commitment, and future expectations about marriage, education and employment.

Sources of Data: The 'World of Work', 'Rotter Scale', 'Family Attitudes', and 'Aspirations & Expectations' sections of the 1979-1984 & 1987 questionnaires.

Additional Variables: See also the ATTJBOFR and ATTINFLN files.

File Name: **ATTJBOFR** ATTITUDES TOWARD HYPOTHETICAL JOB OFFERS 1979

Number of Variables: 22

File Description: This file contains a select number of questions dealing with whether respondents would accept various hypothetical job offers to work at certain jobs at varying pay rates, i.e., would the respondent accept a full-time job making hamburgers at $2.50 or $3.50 or $5.00 an hour.

Sources of Data: The 'On Jobs/Pay' section of the 1979 questionnaire.

File Name: **BIRTHR85** BIRTH RECORD AND FERTILITY 1985

Number of Variables: 680

File Description: This file contains an update to the pregnancy/live birth record, contraceptive use in past month, expected next birth, wantedness information, a menarche and first intercourse update, residence of biological and non-biological children, pre-natal care, illnesses and well baby care, infant feeding practices, and child visitation practices of the absent parent.

Sources of Data: The 'Fertility' section of the 1985 questionnaire.

Additional Variables: CHILDREN, BIRTHREC, BIRTHR86, BIRTHR87, and FERTILITY.

File Name: BIRTHR86 BIRTH RECORD AND FERTILITY 1986

Number of Variables: 1080

File Description: This file contains an update to the pregnancy/live birth record, contraceptive methods and use, expected next birth, a wantedness update, visitation practices of parent not living in the same household, reported abortion in the last two years, pre-natal health care, infant feeding practices, and illnesses and well baby care.

Sources of Data: The 'Fertility' section of the 1986 questionnaire including the confidential abortion supplement.

Additional Variables: CHILDREN, BIRTHREC, BIRTHR85, BIRTHR87, and FERTILITY.

File Name: BIRTHR87 BIRTH RECORD AND FERTILITY 1987

Number of Variables: 66

File Description: This file contains an update for all live births since the 1986 survey, usual living arrangements of biological children, and use of a regular child care arrangement in the past four weeks.

Sources of Data: The 'Fertility' section of the 87 questionnaire.

Additional Variables: CHILDREN, BIRTHREC, BIRTHR85, BIRTHR86, and FERTILITY.

File Name: BIRTHREC BIRTH RECORD AND FERTILITY 1982-1984

Number of Variables: 1431

File Description: This file contains a complete retrospective on all pregnancies for female respondents and all live births for male respondents, including ideal/expected number of children, dates of birth, death, sex, and current residence for all live births, dates of all pregnancy losses, as well as current and retrospective contraceptive use. In addition, data for 1983 and 1984 contain information on age at first intercourse, pre-natal health care, infant feeding practices while the 1984 survey data includes a confidential abortion report, visitation practices of the parent not living in the same household with child, and information of sex education course attended by respondent.

Sources of Data: The 'Fertility' sections of the 1982, 1983, and 1984 questionnaires and the confidential abortion card.

Additional Variables: CHILDREN, BIRTHR85, BIRTHR86, BIRTHR87, and FERTILITY.

File Name: BTWNJOBS PERIOD WHEN R WAS NOT WORKING OR IN THE MILITARY 1979-1987

Number of Variables: 318

File Description: This file contains information on what the respondent was doing during the time periods when s/he was not employed or in the military, i.e., information on weeks not working, weeks spent looking for work, and reason not looking for work is provided for up to six periods for each survey year.

Sources of Data: The various questionnaire sections entitled 'On Periods When R Not Working or in Military'.

File Name: CHILDCAR CHILD CARE 1982-1987

Number of Variables: 537

File Description: This file contains, for the 1982-85 survey years, information on location and types of child care utilized and types of child care payments incurred over the past four weeks for certain children whose mother was employed, in school, or in training. The 1986 questionnaire collected similar information from all mothers including a first three years of life retrospective for all children.

Sources of Data: The 'Child Care' sections of the 1982-86 questionnaires and the 'Fertility' section of the 1987 questionnaire.

File Name: CHILDREN FERTILITY 1979-1981

Number of Variables: 38

File Description: This file contains the limited number of fertility questions which were asked during the 1979-1981 surveys. Included are data on dates of birth for each live birth, number of children wanted/expected, ideal family size, and when next child is expected.

Sources of Data: The 'Fertility' sections of the 1979-1981 questionnaires.

Additional Variables: BIRTHREC, BIRTHR85, BIRTHR86, BIRTHR87, and FERTILITY.

File Name: COMMON COMMON DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Number of Variables: 58

File Description: This file contains commonly used variables from several survey years. Included are: (1) each respondent's identification number, sample type, race, sex, and dates of birth; (2) identification numbers and relationship codes of other youth in the same household who were interviewed in 1979; (3) interview-specific information including reason for non-interview, week numbers of interview date and of last interview, etc.; as well as (4) various employment status since last interview variables.

Sources of Data: The variables listed in COMMON are a composite of assigned codes, created variables, and information from the 1978 screener and various questionnaires.

File Name: CPS CURRENT LABOR FORCE STATUS 1979-1987

Number of Variables: 414

File Description: This file contains Current Population Survey variables which establish current labor force status, i.e., activity during most of survey week (employed, unemployed, out of the labor force). Included are job characteristics, global job satisfaction, and hours worked per week for current/most recent job; job search behavior for those unemployed; and plans to seek employment for those out of the labor force.

Sources of Data: The 'Current Labor Force Status - CPS Questions' sections of each survey instrument.

Additional Variables: See also the KEYVARS file for created employment variables.

File Name: CRFBIO CHILDREN'S RECORD FORM FOR BIOLOGICAL CHILDREN

Number of Variables: 160

File Description: This file contains information from the Children's Record Form, an interviewing aid which was used in the 1985 - 1987 surveys to : (1) enumerate all biological children; (2) provide identifying information on each child, i.e., an identification number, date of birth, sex, deceased/adopted status; and (3) identify missing health care and feeding practice information which needed to be gathered in the current survey.

Sources of Data: The 'Children's Record' forms.

File Name: CRFNBIO CHILDREN'S RECORD FORM FOR NONBIOLOGICAL CHILDREN

Number of Variables: 60

File Description: This file contains information from the Children's Record Form, an interviewing aid which was used in the 1985 and 1986 surveys to : (1) enumerate all non-biological children; and (2) provide identifying information on each child, i.e., an identification number, date of birth, sex, deceased/adopted status.

Sources of Data: The 'Children's Record' forms.

File Name: DGRECERT DEGREES AND CERTIFICATIONS 1979-1984

Number of Variables: 66

File Description: This file contains information from the 1979-1984 surveys on the types of college degrees and other certificates and licenses (including driver's license) that respondents received prior to the first interview and since last interview.

Sources of data: The 'Other Training' and 'Regular Schooling' sections of the 1979 - 1984 questionnaires.

File Name: DRUGS DRUG USE 1984

Number of Variables: 157

File Description: This file contains responses to the special set of drug questions which were asked in the 1984 survey. Included is information on age at first use and extent of use of such substances as cigarettes, marijuana/hashish, amphetamines, barbituates, cocaine, heroin, and other drugs, a monthly retrospective look at respondents' use of marijuana/hashish during 1979-1984, and use of such substances on the job.

Sources of Data: The 'Drugs' section of the 1984 questionnaire.

Additional Variables: See also the ILLEGAL file for questions on alcohol marijuana use, and drug dealing. The various birth record files contain variables on cigarette and alcohol use during pregnancy.

File Name: FAMBKGN FAMILY BACKGROUND 1979-1987

Number of Variables: 188

File Description: This file contains the extensive family background information gathered in the 1979 survey: country/state of respondent's birth; identification of persons with whom the respondent lived at age 14; birthplace, education, work experience of respondent's mother and father; racial/ethnic origin; periods of time residing with parents, etc. Also included in this file are: the religious affiliation and attendance questions asked in 1979 and 1982; the 1979, 1980, and 1982 residential mobility questions; and identification of the language used in the administration of the household interview forms for each survey year.

Sources of Data: A variety of sections from the 1979-87 questionnaires including the 'Family Background' and 'Residence' sections as well as the Household Interview forms. See the appropriate questionnaire citation for each variable to locate the source of the data.

File Name: FERTILITY SUPPLEMENTAL FERTILITY FILE

Number of Variables: 293

File Description: A file of constructed and edited fertility variables including: (1) revisions to dates of birth, gender, and usual living arrangements for all respondents' children; (2) other constructed variables commonly used in fertility research, i.e., beginning and ending dates of marriages, age at first marriage, at first birth, spacing between births, and between marriage and first birth, etc.; and (3) a variable evaluating the consistency of the longitudinal fertility record.

Sources of Data: Entirely created variables based on the raw 1979-1986 fertility data with hand edits completed in 1982.

Additional Variables: CHILDREN, BIRTHREC, BIRTHR85, BIRTHR86, and BIRTHR87.

File Name: GOVJOBS GOVERNMENT JOBS - EMPLOYER SUPPLEMENT 1979-1987

Number of Variables: 975

File Description: This file contains information on up to five government sponsored jobs (i.e., CETA/JTPA, WIN) in which a respondent was employed. Included is information on each job's occupational code, types of training services (job counseling, GED preparation, OJT, classroom training, skill training) provided, types of supportive services (child care, health care, transportation) received, as well as job placement information.

Sources of Data: The 'Jobs' section of the 1979 questionnaire and the 1980-1987 Employer Supplements.

Additional Variables: See also the JOBINFO and PERIODNW files.

File Name: GOVTRAIN GOVERNMENT TRAINING 1979-1987

Number of Variables: 612

File Description: This file contains information on up to two government training programs in which a respondent was enrolled since the last interview. Included is information on the name of the government training sponsor, current enrollment status, dates/hours of participation, periods of nonparticipation, whether the program was part of a CETA/JTPA or WIN affiliated program, type of occupational/OJT training received, types of training services provided (job counseling, GED preparation, classroom training, skills training, etc.), various supportive services received, and income/rate of pay received during participation.

Sources of Data: The 'On Government Training' sections of each questionnaire.

Additional Variables: See also the TRAINING and GOVJOBS files.

File Name: HEALTH HEALTH 1979-1987

Number of Variables: 215

File Description: This file contains information on the presence of health conditions preventing or limiting labor market work including, for select survey years, the specific types of health conditions, their causes, and parts of the body affected.

Sources of Data: The 'On Health' sections of each questionnaire.

Additional Variables: See also ALCOHOL, DRUGS, as well as the several birth record files for pregnancy-related health issues.

File Name: HHRECORD HOUSEHOLD RECORD 1979-1987

Number of Variables: 810

File Description: This file contains yearly information for each household member currently living in the respondent's household including each person's sex, relationship to respondent, age, highest grade completed, and work experience in past year. The household enumeration is completed during the household interview.

Sources of Data: The various versions of the 'Household Interview Forms'.

Additional Variables: The specific version of the household record form which was administered can be found in the MXXVAR files for each survey year; the language in which the household record form was administered is in the FAMBKGN file; and income variables from the household record form are found in the INCOME file.

File Name: ILLEGAL ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES AND REPORTED POLICE CONTACTS 1980

Number of Variables: 71

File Description: This file contains information on respondents' participation in and income from various delinquent and criminal activities such as skipping school, alcohol/marijuana use, vandalism, shoplifting, drug dealing, robbery, and reported contacts with the criminal justice system.

Sources of Data: The 'Delinquency and Drugs' and 'Reported Police Contacts' sections of the 1980 questionnaire as well as the confidential questionnaire supplement 'Form J'.

Additional Variables: The ALCOHOL and DRUGS files.

File Name: INCOME INCOME & ASSETS 1979-1987

Number of Variables: 1135

File Description: This file contains information on income received in the past calendar year from various sources including: (1) earned income of the respondent and spouse from such sources as military service, wages and salary, farm or own business; (2) total net family income; (3) monthly income amounts received by the respondent and spouse from UC, AFDC, food stamps, and other public assistance; and (4) sources of income for other family members.

Sources of Data: The 'Income' sections of each questionnaire and the income questions of the various Household Interview forms.

Additional Variables: See also the ASSETS, KEYVARS, and SCHOOL files.

File Name: INTRMK INTERVIEWER REMARKS 1979-1987

Number of Variables: 143

File Description: This file contains interview-specific and interviewer comment information including the dates and length of each interview, type of interview (personal or telephone), a record of the attempts made to locate each respondent, language used to conduct the interview, various interviewer remarks on respondent's race, attitude, understanding of the questions, presence of anyone else during the interview as well as interviewer identification codes.

Sources of Data: The 'Interviewer Remarks' section of each questionnaire.

File Name: JOBFIND JOB SEARCH AND JOB FINDING 1981, 1982, 1986, 1987

Number of Variables: 477

File Description: This file contains information on: (1) the job search methods (state or private employment offices, classified ads in the newspapers, friends and relatives, labor unions, etc.) used by unemployed respondents to find employment; (2) the success of the various methods; (3) reason for nonacceptance of any job offers obtained; and (4) rate of pay for the job offer. The reference period differs for the three survey years with the 1981 questions directed towards job search methods utilized in the past four weeks, the 1982 questions towards the most recent job obtained, and the 1986 questions detailing the methods used in each of the past 12 months.

Source of Data: The 'Job Search' section of the 1981 questionnaire; the 'Job Finding' section of the 1982 questionnaire; and the 'On Periods When R Not Working or in Military' section of the 1986 and 1987 questionnaires.

File Name: JOBINFO JOB INFORMATION - EMPLOYER SUPPLEMENT 1979-1987

Number of Variables: 1170

File Description: This file contains information on the jobs each respondent held since the date of last interview including start-stop dates of employment, hours worked, reason left job and job characteristics (i.e., occupation, class of worker, rate of pay, collective bargaining wages) for up to five jobs held.

Sources of Data: The 'Jobs' section of the 1979 questionnaire and the 1980-1987 Employer Supplements.

File Name: JOBS EMPLOYMENT 1979-1987

Number of Variables: 87

File Description: This file contains select variables relating to: (1) jobs held since last interview; and (2) whether those jobs were part of a cooperative work study program, college work study program, or some type of government-sponsored job held since the last interview.

Sources of Data: The 'On Jobs' sections of each survey instrument.

File Name: JOBSB478 LAST JOB LASTING 2 WEEKS OR MORE 1979

Number of Variables: 12

File Description: This file contains the 12 variables asked in the 1979 survey dealing with characteristics of the job in which the respondent last worked for two or more consecutive weeks. Included is information on date last worked, occupation and industry codes of job, class of worker, and whether the job was a government job or in private business.

Sources of Data: The 'On Last Job Lasting Two Weeks or More' section of the 1979 questionnaire.

File Name: JOBSCHL WORK EXPERIENCE PRIOR TO 11/1/78 - 1979 SURVEY

Number of Variables: 23

File Description: This file contains a limited number of variables on respondent's work experience prior to the 1979 interview. Information on weeks and hours worked in 1975, 1976, and 1977 as well as characteristics of the first job a respondent held after s/he left school including dates of employment, industry/occupation, pay rate, hours worked, and reason left first job is provided.

Sources of Data: The 'On Work Experience Prior to January 1, 1978' section of the 1979 questionnaire.

File Name: KEYVARS CREATED KEY VARIABLES 1979-1987

Number of Variables: 200

File Description: This file contains the yearly *KEY* variables as well as other summary variables which have been created by the Center from the raw data. They encompass a wide range of employment, military, education, income, poverty status, unemployment rate for the local labor market and other geographic-related variables.

Sources of Data: The variables on this file are all created variables with the exception of the 'type of residence' variables which are derived from the household interview forms.

Additional Variables: This file contains the primary longitudinal (all main file) created variables. Other constructed variables can be found in the supplemental FERTILITY file as well as the special NLSY geocode, workhistory, and child constructed data files.

File Name: LASTINFO INFORMATION - INFORMATION COLLECTED AT LAST INTERVIEW 1980-1987

Number of Variables: 377

File Description: This file contains key information on the respondent which was collected at the last interview (i.e., dates of last interview, marital status, number of children, high school completion status, names of previous employers, etc.). These data appear on the 'Information Sheet' which is used by the interviewers to route the respondent through the survey.

Sources of Data: The 'Information Sheet' for each survey year. Note: Data that appear on the interviewer's Information Sheet occurs in the codebook following the main survey variables for each survey year.

File Name: MARRIAGE MARITAL HISTORY 1979-1987

Number of Variables: 248

File Description: This file contains: (1) the respondent's marital status at each survey date, changes in marital status since last interview, and dates of each marital status change; and (2) information on respondent's spouse such as birth/death dates, occupation, educational attainment, labor force status, religious affiliation, and health limitations.

Sources of Data: The 'Marital History' section of each questionnaire.

Additional Variables: Additional marital history variables can be found in the FERTILITY and the KEYVARS files.

File Name: MILITARY MILITARY 1980-1987

Number of Variables: 1295

File Description: This file contains information on respondents' enlistment intentions, attitudes toward the military, dates of military service/reserve duty, branch of service, military occupation, pay grade and income, education and training received, reasons left military or reenlisted.

Sources of Data: The 'Military' sections of the 1980-1987 questionnaires.

Additional Variables: See KEYVARS and the M79VAR file for all 1979 military variables.

File Name: PERIODNW PERIODS NOT WORKING - EMPLOYER SUPPLEMENT 1979-1987

Number of Variables: 1155

File Description: This file contains detailed information on the time periods a respondent was with a job but not working (up to four periods) and reasons for not working for each of five jobs held during the survey year.

Sources of Data: The 'Jobs' section of the 1979 questionnaire and the 1980-1987 Employer Supplements.

File Name: PROFILES ARMED SERVICES VOCATIONAL APTITUDE BATTERY (ASVAB) 1980

Number of Variables: 33

File Description: This file contains all of the variables from the 1980 administration of the ASVAB including individual respondent scores, scale scores, and standard errors for each of the ten ASVAB test sections. Also provided is respondent sampling weight, high school graduate status, and characteristics of the test administration for each respondent.

Sources of Data: The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery.

Additional Variables: All ASVAB administration variables are located within the PROFILES file. See also the SCHLSURV file for aptitude and intelligence scores and the SCHOOL file for other education-specific variables.

File Name: SCHLSURV SCHOOL SURVEY

Number of Variables: 96

File Description: This file contains all data generated from the 1979 survey of last secondary school attended. It includes: (1) respondent-specific information on school enrollment status, highest grade attended, remedial classes taken, and scores/percentiles/grade levels for various intelligence and aptitude tests; and (2) school-specific information including data on the school's total enrollment, the school's grading system, types of curricula offered, dropout rate, student body composition, and staffing characteristics.

Sources of Data: Data are derived from the School Survey instrument, a copy of which can be found in the "High School Transcript Survey Codebook".

Additional Variables: The TRANSURV file contains respondent-specific information on high school coursework.

File Name: SCHOOL REGULAR SCHOOLING 1979-1987

Number of Variables: 153

File Description: This file contains information on each respondent's school enrollment status, i.e., whether s/he is currently enrolled in school, the highest grade attended or completed, type of high school curriculum, attainment of a high school diploma or GED, major field of study in college, and a variety of other college-related variables.

Sources of Data: The 'Regular Schooling' section of each survey instrument.

Additional Variables: The INCOME file contains the total amount of educational benefits in the past calendar year.

File Name: TIMEUSE TIME SPENT WORKING, GOING TO SCHOOL, TRAINING, ETC. 1981

Number of Variables: 219

File Description: This file contains responses to the special set of questions asked in the 1981 survey about each respondent's use of time during the past seven days, e.g. how much time was spent working, commuting, attending school or various training programs, sleeping, watching TV, caring for children or completing household chores.

Sources of Data: The six 'time use' sections of the 1981 questionnaire.

File Name: TRAINING OTHER TRAINING 1979-1987

Number of Variables: 224

File Description: This file contains information on up to three types of vocational/technical training in which a respondent was enrolled for at least one month since the last interview. Included is information on the occupation in which training was received, dates of enrollment and completion, type of school, completion status, and any subsequent training received.

Sources of Data: The 'Other Training' sections of each questionnaire.

Additional Variables: See also the GOVTRAIN file.

File Name: TRANSURV TRANSCRIPT SURVEY

Number of Variables: 320

File Description: This file contains information collected from the transcript survey which was administered during 1980, 1981 and 1983 to civilian NLSY respondents. Data are available for up to 64 courses taken by each respondent surveyed including information on high school subject, final grade, source of the final grade, and credit received.

Sources of Data: The special Transcript Survey instrument, a copy of which can be found in the "High School Transcript Survey Codebook".

Additional Variables: The SCHLSURV file contains additional school-specific information on enrollment, grading system, and type of curricula offered.

5

SPECIAL USER SERVICES

BITNET Services

BITNET users can directly access up-to-date data file information and certain NLS publications via NLSERVE, a CHRR file server. There is no charge for these electronic documents and delivery is direct to the user via BITNET.

Currently available via NLSERVE is the NLS newsletter, selected research papers, data file and documentation error updates, as well as data file and publication order information.

BITNET users should use the following command syntax and the NLSERVE commands listed below:

For VAX/VMS users:	SEND NLSERVE@OHSTHR nlserve_command e.g. SEND NLSERVE@OHSTHR HELP
For IBM/VM users:	TELL NLSERVE AT OHSTHR nlserve_command e.g. TELL NLSERVE AT OHSTHR HELP
For IBM/MVS TSO users:	Command syntax is site dependant, consult your local user services representative.

Valid NLSERVE commands are:

HELP - For help information, broadcast directly to the user's terminal device.

INFO - For general introduction to the Center and NLSERVE.

DIR - For a directory listing of available files.

SEND filename.filetype - For requesting a specific file.

To subscribe to the NLS newsletter and the data update service, users should request the file - SUBSCRIBE.INFO. When the newsletter is issued (quarterly), or when a data update is available (immediately), distribution to the subscribers is automatic via BITNET.

Staff Assistance

The following staff members of the Center are available to assist the public user. They can be reached either through their BITNET address listed below or through the Center's general mailing address and phone number.

General information on the NLS, current data tape releases, and orders for NLS tapes, documentation, and publications should be addressed to the NLS Public Users' Office [USERSVC@OHSTHR].

Questions of a substantive nature on the content and structure of the data files should be brought to the attention of the cohort archivists:

Four Original Cohorts:	Patricia Rhoton	[RHOTON@OHSTHR]
NLSY:	Laura Branden	[BRANDEN@OHSTHR]
NLSY Children:	Paula Baker	[BAKER@OHSTHR]
NLSY Fertility:	Jean Haurin	[HAURIN@OHSTHR]

Questions of a technical nature should be addressed to the following members of the computer group:

Associate Director- Data Processing:	Carol Sheets	[SHEETS@OHSTHR]
Questions on tape format and data tape specifications:	David Ball	[BALL@OHSTHR]
Use of CD ROM:	Rufus Milsted	[SRM@OHSTHR]
BITNET, NLSERVE:	Peter Tomasek	[TOMASEK@OHSTHR]

Questions on the NLS in conjunction with grant applications and serious statistical issues should be forwarded to Randall Olsen, Principal Investigator of the NLS [OLSEN@OHSTHR].

Questions on the NLSY children's data, the maternal-child health data, and the supplemental fertility data should be addressed to Frank L. Mott.

The Center's mailing address and phone number are:

The Center for Human Research Research
The Ohio State University
650 Ackerman Road Suite A
Columbus, Ohio 43202-1501 (614) 263-1682

Data Retrievals

The Center frequently receives requests to conduct special retrievals for NLS users. While current staffing prohibits the allocation of large amounts of time to such projects, the Center invites those with such needs to submit in writing a detailed description of the data and type(s) of analysis desired. Each request will be reviewed on an individual basis and a cost estimate and timeframe prepared for the user. Processing of your request will be greatly facilitated if the following specific information is provided: (1) cohort(s) to be used including any matching among the four original cohorts or matching within the 1979 youth cohort including additional child/mother matches; (2) criteria for inclusion in the extract using Reference numbers to identify variables of interest; (3) variables to be extracted and/or created. Again all variables must be identified by reference number; (4) format of the resultant data set, checks to be performed, and documentation and supporting materials to be produced.

Please include your name, address, telephone number, or BITNET address. Requests for such data retrievals should be addressed to the attention of Randall Olsen.

6

NLS DOCUMENTATION

The following section describes the primary components of the Original Cohort and NLSY documentation packages. One set of hardcopy documentation is provided at no cost to data tape purchasers; extra sets of documentation and individual documentation items are available for the prices listed on the documentation order form. Select main file documentation items (codebooks, numeric and KWIC indices) are also provided on the data tape. The Center encourages researchers who are considering the applicability of the NLS for their research needs to purchase, at a minimum, a set of survey instruments for the relevant cohort(s). Documentation purchase prices will be subtracted, upon request, from the cost of any subsequent file ordered.

This section concludes with a Quick Reference Guide to terms utilized throughout the NLS documentation including sample pages from the codebooks, KWIC and numeric indices. A Documentation Order Form can be found at the end of this section.

Original Cohorts Documentation Items

Census Survey Instruments.

Copies of each survey year's questionnaire, the various household record cards, and, for the Young Men and Young Women cohorts, the special 1968 High School Survey instrument are provided. Section 2, 'Original Cohort Interview Materials,' provides complete descriptions of these instruments. Interviewer's Reference Manuals are not provided within the documentation set but are available as a separate purchase item.

The Codebook.

The codebook is the principal element of the documentation system and contains information that is intended to be complete and self-explanatory for each variable in the file. The codebook depicts for each variable: a reference number, variable description, variable number, coding information, frequency distribution, as well as a reference to the questionnaire item. Derivations for certain created variables are contained in the codebooks while others are referenced in the codebook supplements. The codebooks also provide universe information for surveys up through the late 70s.

The variables are arranged in a uniform pattern in each codebook. They are first grouped according to survey year. Within each survey year, those variables picked up directly from the questionnaire appear first, arranged in item-number sequence, followed by the created variables (derived from one or more questionnaire item). Codebooks cover all survey years of a given cohort. A sample Original Cohort codebook entry appears in the Quick Reference Guide to NLS Documentation.

Attachments.

A variety of attachments and appendices containing supplementary variable and coding information are provided for each cohort.

Attachment 2 - 1960 & 1980 Census of Population Industry and Occupational Classification Codes - provides the occupation-industry coding assignments made by Census Bureau personnel from the verbal descriptions obtained in the interviews. The 1960 Census classifications have been used to code all occupation and industry variables for all four cohorts for all survey years. In addition, Census started a double coding of the current or last job held by the respondent utilizing the 1980 classifications. Because the interviews with the Young Men ceased in 1981, the 1960 codes were used exclusively with that cohort. This attachment also contains a copy of the Duncan Socioeconomic Index, an ordinal prestige scale assigning a rank of 0-97 to each of the three digit 1960 Census occupations.

Attachment 3 - Household Record Variables - identifies certain relationships and characteristics of family members (early survey years) and household members (later survey years). This attachment provides, for each member of the respondent's household, coding information, variable and reference numbers, as well as frequency distributions for the following types of variables: relationship to respondent; age; school enrollment status; highest grade completed; number of weeks worked and hours worked per week last year; and the occupation code. Note: the user will not find all of these variables present for all survey years for each cohort.

Attachment 4 - Bose Index - provides a mean occupational prestige score for each of the three-digit 1960 occupation codes for the Young Women and Mature Women cohorts.

Codebook Supplement - Appendices.

Supplementary coding and variable derivation information is provided for each of the original cohorts within the Codebook Supplement appendices. See the Original Cohort Documentation Chart below for a complete listing of the relevant cohort-specific appendices.

KWIC Index and Dictionary Thesaurus.

The "keyword-in-context" (KWIC) index has been designed to assist users in identifying and locating variables relevant to their research interests. It is the output of a computer program which processes as inputs: (1) a dictionary of predetermined keywords; and (2) a file containing textual descriptions (i.e., the name) of every variable for a given cohort. The program generates as output an alphabetically arranged list of the keywords, and under each, a list of all variables whose descriptions contain the keyword. Most variables appear more than once because most variables contain more than one keyword. In addition, the index provides the following cross-referencing information: the reference number, questionnaire number, and the variable number. To facilitate use, a dictionary-thesaurus of all keywords cross-referenced with related terms is provided. A sample page from an Original Cohort KWIC Index appears below.

Numeric Index.

This index is a complete list of all variables arranged in the sequence as they appear on the data tape. It includes the variable description and the other types of information contained in the KWIC Index. The fact that one can enter this index with tape location and ascertain the information necessary to find the variable in the codebook or in the questionnaire makes it particularly useful to programmers. A sample page from an Original Cohort Numeric Index appears below.

Flow Charts.

Universe information and skip patterns for post-1977 questionnaires are provided within separate flow charts. Comparable information for earlier survey years can be found in the respective cohort codebooks.

Error Updates.

Data file errors which have been discovered and not yet incorporated within the data file are included in supplementary error memos. Those error updates listed in Table 12. are accurate as of 9/1/88. Errors found subsequent to the publication of this handbook will be announced in forth-coming NLS newsletters. BITNET users can access current errors via NLSERVE.

Table 12. CHRR-Generated Public Documentation: The Original Cohorts

ITEM	OLDER MEN	MATURE WOMEN	YOUNG WOMEN	YOUNG MEN
CODEBOOK:	1966-1983	1967-1984	1968-1982 1983-1985	1966-1981
ATTACHMENTS:	1: Questionnaire Items (1966-1983)	1: Questionnaire Items (1967-1984)	1: Questionnaire Items (1968-1982)	1: Questionnaire Items (1966-1981)
	2: Industry/Occupation Codes 1960/80	2: Industry/Occupation Codes 1960/80	2: Industry/Occupation Codes 1960/80	2: Industry/Occupation Codes 1960/80
	3: Household Record Variables (1966-1983)	3: Household Record Variables (1967-1984)& (1983-1984)	3: Household Record Variables (1968-1982)& (1983-1985)	3: Household Record Variables (1966-1981)
		4: Bose Index	4: Bose Index	
CODEBOOK SUPPLEMENT (APPENDICES):	1: Poverty Status Vars 1966-69	3: State by Division Codes	1: Fields of Study in College	1: Fields of Study in College
	2: Add'l Instructions 1969	4: Derivations for R2847	2: State by Division Codes	2: State by Division Codes
	3: State by Division Codes	5: Occup'l Atypicality Ind	4: Median Educ by Occupation	3: Code Enlisted Men/Officers
	4: Weeks on Layoff 1967&69	6: Deriv for R2872.50	5: Occup'l Atypicality Index	4: Median Education
	5: Geographic Vars 1966-76	7: Deriv for R792.50	6: Key Vars Edit Specs (1971)	5: Employ Status Recode 66-69
	18: Union Categories	8: Deriv for R744.05	7: Employ Status Recode 68-69	6: Father/Mother Vars (1966)
	19: Key Vars 1981	9: Key Vars (1977)	9: Deter Early Lab Mkt Success	7: Partial Deriv R2958
		10: Geographic Vars 1967-77	10: Deter Early Lab Mkt Success	8: Enroll Pattern (1966-69)
		11: Key Vars (1971)	11: Deter Early Lab Mkt Success	9: Deter Early Lab Mkt Success
		12: Key Vars (1972)	12: Deter Early Lab Mkt Success	10: Deter Early Lab Mkt Success
		18: Union Categories	18: Union Categories	11: Deter Early Lab Mkt Success
		19: Key Vars (1982)		12: Deter Early Lab Mkt Success
			20: Marital Stat Pattern 68-73	13: Deter Early Lab Mkt Success
			21: Rev. Vars Mo/Yr Left Schl.	14: Edits for R2997
			22: GED/SVP Job-Lev/Fmly Valu.	15: Decis Rules:Dates Attend School
			23: Derivation for R5031.-5047.	16: Edits for 21 Vars
			24: Derivation for R5007.-5012.	17: Work Exper Vars-Time Ref
			25: Geographic Vars (1968-78)	18: Union/ EA Vars
			26: Key Vars (1978)	19: GED/SVP/Job-Level/Family/Oc
			27: Job Characteristic Index	20: Derivation for R3836.& Key
			28: Job Satisfaction Measures	21: Geographic Vars (1966-76)
			29: Union Election-Preference	22: Job Characteristic Index
			30: Key Vars (1983)	23: Job Satisfaction Measures
			31: Changes in 1983 Survey	24: Derivations for R3035,R3829
				25: Union Election-Prefer Reason
				26: Deriv for R8114-R8118

Table 12. (continued)

ITEM	OLDER MEN	MATURE WOMEN	YOUNG WOMEN	YOUNG MEN
NUMERIC INDEX:	1966-1983	1967-1984	1968-1982 1983-1985	1966-1981
KWIC INDEX & THESAURUS:	1966-1983	1967-1984	1968-1982 1983-1985	1966-1981
FLOW CHARTS:	1978 1980 1981 1983	1979 1981 1982 1984	1978 1980 1982 1983 1985	1978 1980 1981
ERROR UPDATES (as of 9/1/88)	Errors in: (1) Social Security Income & Total Family Income in 80 (81 Survey) (February 27, 1987)	None as of 6/88	None as of 6/88	Errors in: (1) 1981 Total Family Income, Weeks Out of the Labor Force, Weeks Unemployed, Weeks Worked (84 memo)

Optional Documentation Items.

The following items are not provided as part of the main documentation set but are available upon request:

Interviewer's Reference Manuals provide Census Bureau interviewers with the detailed question by question instructions needed to complete each questionnaire and household record card.

Attachment 1 - Questionnaire Items - identifies items from the questionnaires which do not appear as variables on the tape and provides universe information which would have appeared had the items been coded.

Original Cohort Relationship Tape Documentation.

This documentation packet contains data set names for each of the six relationship files, a listing of the variables which can be found within each, plus supplementary pages listing the various relationship codes and their frequencies by survey year and some of the decision rules used to select each pair.

NLSY Main File Documentation Items

NLSY Survey Instruments.

A copy of each survey year's questionnaire, the various versions of the household interview forms, yearly income table, the employer supplement, and jobs calendar are provided with each data tape order. Section 2, NLSY Interview Materials, provides complete descriptions of these instruments. Note: Interviewer Reference Manuals are not provided within the NLSY documentation set but are available as a separate purchase item.

Background Materials.

Technical Sampling Report - Youth Survey contains detailed descriptions of the procedures utilized to select the civilian and military youth samples including weights and standard errors for the initial survey years.

Technical Sampling Report Addendum presents in tabular form the standard errors and deft factors for the 1982-1987 survey years.

Household Screener and Interviewer's Manual contains: (1) the instructions given to NORC interviewers conducting the 1978 preliminary screening of households from which the two civilian youth samples were drawn; (2) question by question specifications for the household screener interview form; and (3) a completed sample screener.

NLSY Glossary of Terms provides definitions of over 80 key terms and acronyms used throughout the NLSY documentation and related publications.

The Codebook.

The codebook is the principal element of the documentation system containing information that is intended to be complete and self-explanatory for each variable in the file. The codebook depicts for each variable: a reference number, variable description, coding information, frequency distribution, the file name and variable location, as well as a reference to the questionnaire location. Derivations for certain created variables as well as selected universe information is also provided.

The variables are generally arranged in a uniform pattern in each codebook. They are first grouped according to survey year. Within each survey year, those variables picked up directly from the questionnaire appear first, arranged in item-number sequence, followed by the created variables (derived from one or more questionnaire items). A sample NLSY codebook entry appears below in the Quick Reference Guide to NLS Documentation.

NLSY codebooks are available for either the most recent survey year or all survey years. Single year codebooks are provided in both a flat or multiple file format to correspond to the data file in use. Note: Since NLSY codebooks contain variable locations, codebooks must match the data files purchased. Users ordering documentation only from the Center should specify the year(s) and format of the tape to be utilized.

Attachments and Appendices.

Supplementary coding categories and derivations for selected variables can be found within the various NLSY attachments and appendices. Purchasers of the single year tape will receive only those attachments, appendices, and special survey documentation which are relevant to that survey year (see Table M below).

Attachment 3 - Industry and Occupation Codes - is a compilation of: (1) The 3-digit 1970 Census classifications used to code job and training information as well as occupational aspiration information from the 1979-87 questionnaires and employer supplements (U.S. Bureau of the Census 1970 Census of Population Alphabetical Index of Industries and Occupations, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 1971); (2) The 3-digit 1980 Census codes which have been used, beginning with the 1982 survey, to classify respondents' most current or most recent job (U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1980 Census of Population Alphabetical Index of Industries and Occupations, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., (1981); and (3) The 1977 military occupational specialty codes used to classify responses to the 1980-1985 questions on military jobs and military occupations (U.S.

Department of Defense, Occupational Conversion Manual: Enlisted/Officer/Civilian, Defense Manpower Center, Arlington, Virginia, DOD 1312.1-M).

Attachment 4 - Fields of Study in College - provides the coding classifications for the major fields of study and subspecialties variables: (1) the 1979-83 major field of study at current or last college attended; and (2) the 1984-86 major field of study at most recent colleges attended.

Attachment 5 - Index of Labor Unions and Employee Associations - provides codes for the 1979 questions on name of union/employee association at jobs #1 - #5 (i.e., R 937.- R 941.).

Attachment 6 - Other Kinds of Training - lists the various categories of occupational training used to code the 1979 survey question on types of other training programs in which a respondent was enrolled for at least one month (R 1348., R 1353., R 1358., R 1363.).

Attachment 7 - Other Certificate Codes - provides the various types of certifications (i.e., practical nurse, welding, insurance, chef, etc.) that a respondent had ever received as of the 1979 interview (R 1376., R 1377., R 1378., R 1379.).

Attachment 8 - Health Codes - provides a modified version of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-9) codes [International Classification of Diseases, Volumes 1 & 2, Geneva, WHO, 1977-1978] which were used, during survey years 1979-1982, to classify types of health problems delimiting the amount or kind of work a respondent could do. Also included is a list of numeric codes identifying the parts of the body affected by health problems.

Attachment 103-Religion Codes - contains the various denomination categories used to code the 1979 religion of respondent questions (R.103.10 and R 104.10) and the 1982 religion questions (R 6558., R 6583., R 6586., R 6613., and R 6616.).

Appendix 1 - Employment Status Recode (ESR) Variable Creation 1979-87 contains the adapted version of the fortran program used to create this measure of main labor force activity during the survey week.

Appendix 2 - Total Net Family Income Variable Creation 1979-87 - provides the code used to create this KEY income variable for each survey year.

Appendix 3 - Job Satisfaction Measures 1979-82 - provides background information and yearly reference numbers for both the scale items and global satisfaction measures of the modified Quality of Employment Survey scale administered in the 1979-1982 surveys. Additional references and a methodology for constructing the full scale are also presented.

Appendix 4 - Job Characteristic Index 1979 & 1982 - provides background information, reference numbers, questionnaire locations, and additional references for the job complexity questions asked in these two survey years.

Profiles of American Youth - Attachment 106 provides general and technical information on the 1980 administration of the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) to NLSY respondents. Included in this attachment are technical notes on the ASVAB scale scores, an annotated bibliography of DOD publications, an example of the test score report, and various brochures disseminated to participating respondents.

High School & Transcript Surveys Codebook contains background information on the sample design, field work, and types of variables collected during the three rounds of this special survey. Included is a transcript survey codebook, instructions for coding courses, course codes, copies of the transcript coding form and school questionnaire, as well as additional references to other technical reports prepared by the sponsoring agency, the National Center for Research in Vocational Education.

Supplemental Fertility Documentation consists of a codebook and a numerical listing of the 293 variables which comprise the 1986 supplemental fertility and marital history file found on the main NLSY tape. Background information on the 1982 data quality check as well as references to additional reports are also included.

KWIC Index and Dictionary of Keywords.

The "keyword-in-context" index has been designed to assist users in identifying and locating variables relevant to their research interests. It is the output of a computer program which processes as inputs: (1) a dictionary of predetermined keywords; and (2) a file containing textual descriptions (i.e., the name) of every variable for a given cohort. The program generates as output an alphabetically arranged list of the keywords, and under each, a list of all variables by KWIC title whose descriptions contain the keyword. Most variables appear more than once because most variables contain more than one keyword. In addition, the index provides the following cross-referencing information: the reference number, questionnaire number, survey year, and the record type name and variable location for each NLSY variable. A single year KWIC Index is provided to purchasers of the latest survey year data. To facilitate use, a Dictionary of Keywords cross-referenced with related terms is provided. A sample page from a NLSY KWIC Index appears below.

Numeric Index.

This index is a numerically arranged listing of all variables as they appear within each of the NLSY files. The numeric index which accompanies the 1979-1987 and 1987 only multiple data tapes is arranged in the same sequence as that of the tape (see Table 11.). The index for single year flat files is arranged in sequence by questionnaire order with key variables at the end.

Table 13. CHRR-Generated Public Documentation: NLSY Main Files

Item	1979-87	1987 Only
BACKGROUND MATERIALS:	Technical Sampling Report Technical Sampling Report Addendum Household Screener/Interviewer's Manual(1978) NLSY Glossary of Terms	Technical Sampling Report Addendum
CODEBOOKS:	1979-87 Codebook	1987 Flat or Multiple Codebook
ATTACHMENTS:	3: Census & DOD Occupational Industrial Classifications 4: Fields of Study in College 5: Index of Labor Unions and Employee Associations 6: Other Kinds of Training 7: Other Certificate Codes 8: Health Codes 103: Religion Codes	3: Census & DOD Occupational/Industrial Classifications
APPENDICES:	1: Employment Status Recode Variable Creation: 1979-87 2: Total Net Family Income Variable Creation: 1979-87 3: Job Satisfaction Measures: 1979-82 4: Job Characteristic Index: 1979 & 1982	1: Employment Status Recode Variable Creation: 1984-87 2: Total Net Family Income: 1984-87
SPECIAL SURVEYS DOCUMENTATION:	Profiles of America Youth (Attachment 106) High School & Transcript Surveys Codebook Supplemental Fertility Documentation - 1986	Supplemental Fertility Documentation-1986
KWIC INDEX:	1979-1987 KWIC & Dictionary of Keywords	1987 KWIC & Dictionary of Keywords
NUMERIC INDEX:	1979-1987 Numeric	1987 Flat or Multiple Numeric
ERROR UPDATES:		
OPTIONAL DOCUMENTATION:	Flowcharts 1979-87 Interviewer's Reference Manuals 1979-87	Flowchart 1987 Interviewer's Reference Manual 1987

The numeric index includes the following information for each variable: the reference number, variable description, survey year, questionnaire number, and variable location. A sample page from an NLSY numeric index appears below.

Optional NLSY Documentation Items.

The following items are not provided as part of the main documentation set but are available upon request:

Interviewer's Reference Manuals which reproduce facsimiles of survey instruments (the questionnaire, employer supplement, household interview forms, face and information sheets, etc.) and provide NORC interviewers with detailed instructions on administering each.

Flow Charts for each survey year which graphically depict the often complex skip patterns of each survey instrument.

NLSY Special File Documentation Items

Each of the NLSY special data tapes, i.e., the workhistory, the 1979-1982 and the 1983-1987 geocode tapes, and the two child files, is provided with its own documentation. Items contained within each are listed below.

NLSY Workhistory Documentation

NLSY 1979-1987 Workhistory Documentation
Description of the NLSY 1979-1987 Workhistory Program
Description & Codes for Variables on the NLSY 1979-1987 Workhistory Tape
NLSY 1979-1987 Work History Tape Record Layout
NLSY 1979-1987 Work History Tape Condescriptives
Workhistory 7987. FORMAT
Workhistory XNUMBER. LIST
Workhistory 7987. PL/I

NLSY 1979-1982 Geocode Documentation

Documentation for the NLSY 1979-1982 Geocode Data Tape
Attachment 101: Country Codes
Attachment 102: State Codes
Error Update: July 24, 1985
Format for Youth Microdata

NLSY 1983-1987 Geocode Documentation

Documentation for the NLSY 1983-1987 Geocode Data Files

Description for NLSY Geocode Data File Variables by Year: 1983-1987

Attachment 102: State Codes

Attachment 104: 1981 SMSA Codes

Attachment 105: Addendum to FICE Codes

NLSY 1986 Child Assessment Raw Item File Documentation

Child Raw Item File Codebook

1986 Mother Supplement

1986 Child Supplement

"Child Assessment Measures in the 1986 NLSY: Criteria for Inclusion and a Summary Description."

NLSY 1979-1986 Merged Child-Mother Documentation

NLSY Child Handbook & User's Guide

Merged Child-Mother Codebook

Merged Child-Mother Numeric

Mother Supplement

Child Supplement

Data Notes

"Child Assessment Measures in the 1986 NLSY: Criteria for Inclusion and a Summary Description."

NLSY SAS Documentation

Variables are named by their reference numbers (zero filled): R 1. is R0000100 and R 1934.01 is R0193401. The files include variable labels which are 40 character versions of the KWIC title listed in the codebook. No informats or PROC FORMAT values are included. SAS system files can be read with "set", "merge", and "update" commands and by "data=", as in the PROC CONTENTS example included with the tape.

Campus Availability: OSU Users

Documentation sets for the various NLS data files are available at the following sites on The Ohio State University campus. Faculty or students interested in purchasing their own NLS documentation should complete the Documentation Order Form and mail it along with a 100-W or personal check to the NLS Public Users' Office. Tape set-up information for OSU users is provided via BITNET.

1. Business Library
Page Hall
1810 College Road
Reference Room 124
Call #: HD 5724
Hours: Call for hours
Telephone #: 2-2136

2. Polimetrics Laboratory
Derby Hall - 154 N. Oval Mall
Room 149
Hours: 8 A.M.- 5 P.M. Call to confirm.
Telephone #: 2-1061

3. Sociology Research Laboratory (Documentation for NLSY)
Bricker Hall - 190 N. Oval Mall
Room 383
Hours: 9 A.M. to 9 P.M. Mondays - Thursdays; 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. Fridays
Telephone #: 2-1294

NLS Documentation Ordering Information & Order Form

Various components of the NLS documentation can be purchased separately by those investigating the applicability of the NLS for their research needs. The Documentation Order Form, which can be found at the end of this section, presents available documentation packages and prices. Documentation purchase prices will be subtracted, upon request, from the cost of any subsequent data tape ordered.

Quick Reference Guide: NLS Documentation

Sample Pages: Codebooks, Numeric & KWIC Indices

NLS Documentation Item Descriptions

SAMPLE PAGES: NLS KWIC INDEX

Original Cohort KWIC Entries

```
                                                                           | REF. # | VBL# | QUES# |
                                                                           |        |      |       |
SURVEY_WEEK_79                                                             |        |      |       |
        SEE ALSO:  EMPLOYERS, INTERFIRM, INTERVENING_JOB.                  |        |      |       |
                                                                           |        |      |       |
    # OF HOURS_WORKED ##### (ACTUAL)                                       | 4567.  | 5477 |       |
    ACTIVITY MOST OF #####                                                 | 4565.  | 5192 |   1   |
    ACTIVITY MOST OF #####, 81 (NONINTERVIEW 79)                           | 4918.  | 5222 |  R  6 |
    ANY REASON R COULD NOT ACCEPT A JOB #####? (UNEMPLOYED 79)             | 4576.  | 4918 |  4B   |
    DAY STOPPED WORKING AT LAST_JOB HELD BTWN LAST_INTERVIEW & #####       | 4640.  | 4987 |  10A  |
    DID R WORK AT ALL #####?                                               | 4566.  | 5193 |  2A   |
    DID R WORK AT ALL #####? 81 (NONINTERVIEW 79)                          | 4919.  | 5225 |  R  7 |
    EMPLOYED FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME BTWN LAST INT & #####? (NOT EMPLD 79)  | 4577.  | 4919 |   5   |
    EMPLOYER DURING #####, 81                                              | 4920.  | 5224 |  R  8 |
    EVER EMPLOYED BETWEEN LAST_INTERVIEW & #####? (CHECK ITEM E)           | 4649.  | 4983 | CH E  |
    MONTH STOPPED WORKING AT LAST_JOB HELD BTWN LAST_INTERVIEW & #####     | 4639.  | 4986 |  10A  |
    REASON FOR BEING ABSENT FROM JOB #####                                 | 4569.  | 5195 |  3B   |
    HAS R ABSENT FROM HER JOB AT ALL #####?                                | 4568.  | 5194 |  3A   |
    HAS R EMPLOYED BTWN LAST_INTERVIEW AND #####? (CH ITEM C)              | 4638.  | 4985 | CH C  |
    YEAR STOPPED WORKING AT LAST_JOB HELD BTWN LAST_INTERVIEW & #####      | 4641.  | 4988 |  10A  |
                                                                           |        |      |       |
                                                                           |        |      |       |
```

NLSY KWIC Entries

```
KEYWORD = SURVEY WEEK
                                                                     SURVEY  QUESTION            COLUMNS
 REF-NUM  KWIC-TITLE                                                   YEAR   NUMBER   RTNAME  START  END FMT
 R  442.  # OF HOURS ABSENT FROM WORK DURING SURVEY WEEK  CPS ITEM       79  S08Q06A  CPS       20-  21  2
 R 2612.  # OF HOURS ABSENT FROM WORK DURING SURVEY WEEK  CPS ITEM       80  S07Q06A  CPS      122- 123  2
 R 4442.  # OF HOURS ABSENT FROM WORK DURING SURVEY WEEK  CPS ITEM       81  S06D1326 CPS      224- 225  2
 R 6943.  # OF HOURS ABSENT FROM WORK DURING SURVEY WEEK  CPS ITEM       82  S05D1511 CPS      326- 327  2
 R 9373.  # OF HOURS ABSENT FROM WORK DURING SURVEY WEEK  CPS ITEM       83  Q1132    CPS      428- 429  2
 R  441.  ABSENT FROM WORK AT ANY TIME DURING SURVEY WEEK?  CPS ITEM     79  S08Q06   CPS       18-  19  2
 R 2611.  ABSENT FROM WORK AT ANY TIME DURING SURVEY WEEK?  CPS ITEM     80  S07Q06   CPS      120- 121  2
 R 4441.  ABSENT FROM WORK AT ANY TIME DURING SURVEY WEEK?  CPS ITEM     81  S06D1325 CPS      222- 223  2
 R 6942.  ABSENT FROM WORK AT ANY TIME DURING SURVEY WEEK?  CPS ITEM     82  S05D1510 CPS      324- 325  2
 R 9372.  ABSENT FROM WORK AT ANY TIME DURING SURVEY WEEK?  CPS ITEM     83  Q1131    CPS      426- 427  2
 R  452.  ABSENT OR ON TEMPORARY LAYOFF FROM WORK SURVEY WEEK?  CPS ITEM 79  S08Q08B  CPS       36-  37  2
 R 2622.  ABSENT OR ON TEMPORARY LAYOFF FROM WORK SURVEY WEEK?  CPS ITEM 80  S07Q08B  CPS      138- 139  2
 R 4452.  ABSENT OR ON TEMPORARY LAYOFF FROM WORK SURVEY WEEK?  CPS ITEM 81  S06D1341 CPS      240- 241  2
 R 6953.  ABSENT OR ON TEMPORARY LAYOFF FROM WORK SURVEY WEEK?  CPS ITEM 82  S05D1526 CPS      342- 343  2
 R 9383.  ABSENT OR ON TEMPORARY LAYOFF FROM WORK SURVEY WEEK?  CPS ITEM 83  Q1147    CPS      444- 445  2
 R  434.  ACTIVITY MOST OF SURVEY WEEK  CPS ITEM                         79  S08Q01   CPS        6-   7  2
 R 2604.  ACTIVITY MOST OF SURVEY WEEK  CPS ITEM                         80  S07Q01   CPS      108- 109  2
 R 4434.  ACTIVITY MOST OF SURVEY WEEK  CPS ITEM                         81  S06D1314 CPS      210- 211  2
```

SAMPLE PAGES: NLS NUMERIC INDEX

Original Cohort Numeric Entries

```
                                                                  | REF. #  | VBL# |  QUES#  |
                                                                  |         |      |         |
                                                                  |         |      |         |
LOCATE R WHO MOVED VIA PERSONS LISTED ON INFORMATION SHEET? 81    | 4905.   | 5210 | PG  1   |
LOCATE R WHO MOVED VIA OTHER METHOD? 81                           | 4906.   | 5211 | PG  1   |
INTERVIEW_METHOD, 81                                              | 4907.   | 5212 | PG  1   |
INTERVIEW_DATE, 81 - YEAR                                         | 4908.   | 5213 | PG  1   |
INTERVIEW_DATE, 81 - MONTH                                        | 4909.   | 5214 | PG  1   |
INTERVIEW_DATE, 81 - DAY                                          | 4910.   | 5215 | PG  1   |
INTERVIEW_LENGTH, 81                                              | 4911.   | 5216 | PG  1   |
REASON FOR NONINTERVIEW IN 81                                     | 4912.   | 5217 | PG  1   |
MARITAL_STATUS, 81                                                | 4913.   | 5218 |  R  1   |
IS R'S DATE OF BIRTH CORRECT? 81                                  | 4915.   | 5219 |  R  4   |
YEAR OF R'S BIRTH, CORRECTED AS OF 81                             | 4916.   | 5220 |  R  4   |
WAS R A NONINTERVIEW IN 79? 81                                    | 4917.   | 5221 |  R  5   |
ACTIVITY MOST OF SURVEY_WEEK_79, 81 (NONINTERVIEW 79)              | 4918.   | 5222 |  R  6   |
DID R WORK AT ALL SURVEY_WEEK_79? 81 (NONINTERVIEW 79)            | 4919.   | 5223 |  R  7   |
EMPLOYER DURING SURVEY_WEEK_79, 81                                | 4920.   | 5224 |  R  8   |
INTERVIEW_DATE OF LAST_INTERVIEW, 81 - MONTH                      | 4922.   | 5225 |  R  9   |
INTERVIEW_DATE OF LAST_INTERVIEW, 81 - DAY                        | 4923.   | 5226 |  R  9   |
ACTIVITY MOST OF SURVEY_WEEK_81                                   | 4924.   | 5227 |   1     |
```

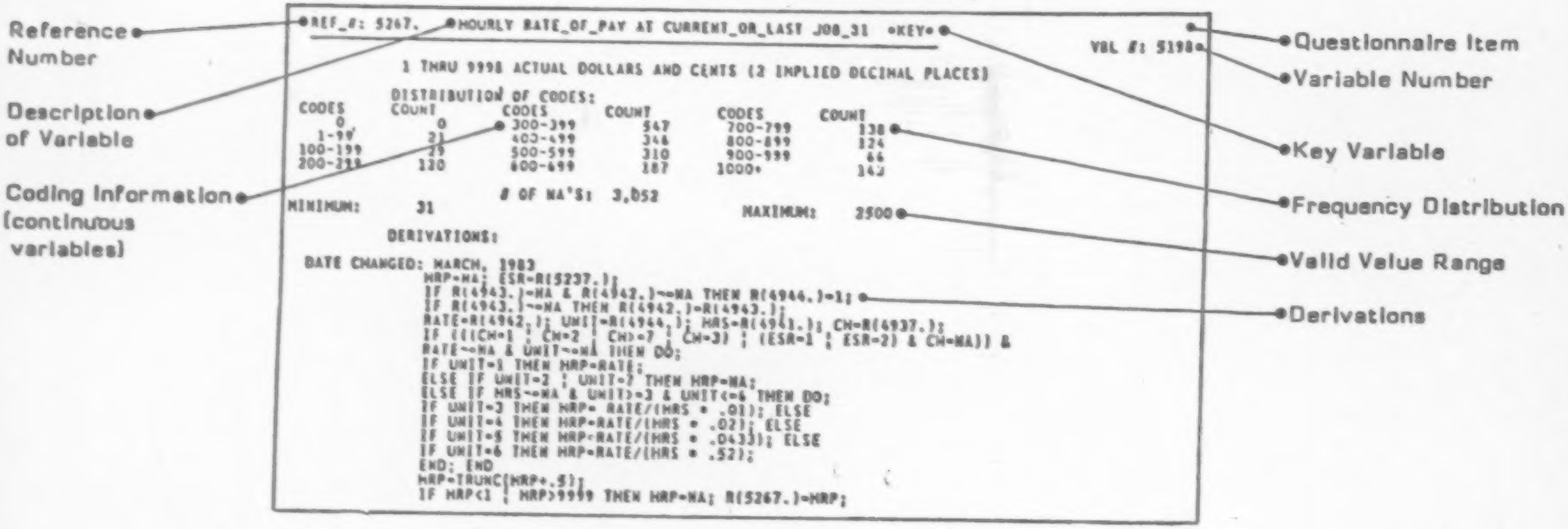
NLSY Numeric Entries

```
  NUMERIC INDEX            COMMON   (COMMON DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION:  ID, DATE OF BIRTH, ETC. )

                                                                          / SURVEY  QUESTION
REF-NUMBER      KWIC-TITLE                                                   YEAR   NUMBER       COLUMNS  FMT
R     1.    IDENTIFICATION (CASEID 1 TO 12686)                                79                  1 -  5   5
R     1.50 IDENTIFICATION CODE OF 1ST OTHER INTERVIEWED YOUTH IN R'S HOUSEHOLD 79                  6 - 10   5
R     1.51 RELATIONSHIP TO YOUTH OF 1ST OTHER INTERVIEWED YOUTH IN R'S HOUSEHOLD 79               11 - 12   2
R     1.52 IDENTIFICATION CODE OF 2ND OTHER INTERVIEWED YOUTH IN R'S HOUSEHOLD 79                 13 - 17   5
R     1.53 RELATIONSHIP TO YOUTH OF 2ND OTHER INTERVIEWED YOUTH IN R'S HOUSEHOLD 79               18 - 19   2
R     1.54 IDENTIFICATION CODE OF 3RD OTHER INTERVIEWED YOUTH IN R'S HOUSEHOLD 79                 20 - 24   5
R     1.55 RELATIONSHIP TO YOUTH OF 3RD OTHER INTERVIEWED YOUTH IN R'S HOUSEHOLD 79               25 - 26   2
R     1.56 IDENTIFICATION CODE OF 4TH OTHER INTERVIEWED YOUTH IN R'S HOUSEHOLD 79                 27 - 31   5
R     1.57 RELATIONSHIP TO YOUTH OF 4TH OTHER INTERVIEWED YOUTH IN R'S HOUSEHOLD 79               32 - 33   2
R     1.58 IDENTIFICATION CODE OF 5TH OTHER INTERVIEWED YOUTH IN R'S HOUSEHOLD 79                 34 - 37   4
R     1.59 RELATIONSHIP TO YOUTH OF 5TH OTHER INTERVIEWED YOUTH IN R'S HOUSEHOLD 79               38 - 39   2
R     1.60 IDENTIFICATION CODE OF 6TH OTHER INTERVIEWED YOUTH IN R'S HOUSEHOLD 79                 40 - 45   6
R     1.61 RELATIONSHIP TO YOUTH OF 6TH OTHER INTERVIEWED YOUTH IN R'S HOUSEHOLD 79               46 - 51   6
R 1736.     SAMPLE IDENTIFICATION CODE  79 INT                                79    S24Q01        52 - 53   2
R 2147.     R'S RACIAL/ETHNIC COHORT FROM SCREENER  79 INT                    79                  54 - 55   2
R 2148.     SEX OF R  79 INT                                                  79                  56 - 57   2
R 4101.     DATE OF BIRTH - MONTH  81 INT                                     81    S0100114      58 - 59   2
R 4102.     DATE OF BIRTH - DAY  81 INT                                       81    S0100116      60 - 61   2
R 4103.     DATE OF BIRTH - YEAR  81 INT                                      81    S0100118      62 - 63   2
```

SAMPLE PAGES: NLS CODEBOOKS

Original Cohort Codebook Entry



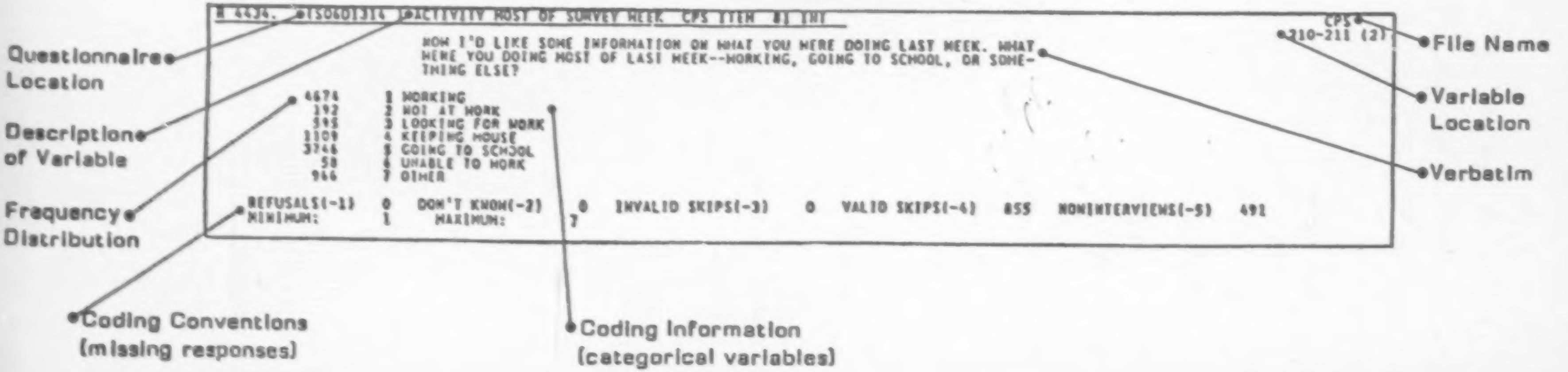
```
REF_#: 5267.   HOURLY RATE_OF_PAY AT CURRENT_OR_LAST JOB_31  *KEY*
                                                          VBL #: 5198
        1 THRU 9998 ACTUAL DOLLARS AND CENTS (2 IMPLIED DECIMAL PLACES)
        DISTRIBUTION OF CODES:
CODES   COUNT     CODES      COUNT     CODES      COUNT
   0        0     300-399      547     700-799      138
 1-99      21     400-499      346     800-899      124
100-199    29     500-599      310     900-999       66
200-299   120     600-699      187     1000+        142
                # OF NA'S:  3,052
MINIMUM:      31                          MAXIMUM:    2500

        DERIVATIONS:

 DATE CHANGED: MARCH, 1983
          HRP=NA; ESR=R(5237.);
          IF R(4943.)=NA & R(4942.)~=NA THEN R(4944.)=1;
          IF R(4943.)~=NA THEN R(4942.)=R(4943.);
          RATE=R(4942.); UNIT=R(4944.); HRS=R(4941.); CH=R(4937.);
          IF (((CH=1 ; CH=2 ; CH>=7 ; CH=3) ; (ESR=1 ; ESR=2) & CH=NA)) &
          RATE~=NA & UNIT~=NA THEN DO;
          IF UNIT=1 THEN HRP=RATE;
          ELSE IF UNIT=2 ; UNIT=7 THEN HRP=NA;
          ELSE IF HRS~=NA & UNIT>=3 & UNIT<=6 THEN DO;
          IF UNIT=3 THEN HRP= RATE/(HRS * .01); ELSE
          IF UNIT=4 THEN HRP=RATE/(HRS * .02); ELSE
          IF UNIT=5 THEN HRP=RATE/(HRS * .0433); ELSE
          IF UNIT=6 THEN HRP=RATE/(HRS * .52);
          END; END
          HRP=TRUNC(HRP+.5);
          IF HRP<1 ; HRP>9999 THEN HRP=NA; R(5267.)=HRP;
```

Reference Number
Description of Variable
Coding Information (continuous variables)
Questionnaire Item
Variable Number
Key Variable
Frequency Distribution
Valid Value Range
Derivations

NLSY Codebook Entry



```
R 4434.  (ISO6D)316  ACTIVITY MOST OF SURVEY WEEK  CPS ITEM  #1 INT          CPS
                                                                     210-211 (2)
              NOW I'D LIKE SOME INFORMATION ON WHAT YOU WERE DOING LAST WEEK. WHAT
              WERE YOU DOING MOST OF LAST WEEK--WORKING, GOING TO SCHOOL, OR SOME-
              THING ELSE?

   4674     1 WORKING
    192     2 NOT AT WORK
    395     3 LOOKING FOR WORK
   1109     4 KEEPING HOUSE
   3746     5 GOING TO SCHOOL
     58     6 UNABLE TO WORK
    966     7 OTHER

REFUSALS(-1)   0   DON'T KNOW(-2)   0   INVALID SKIPS(-3)   0   VALID SKIPS(-4)   855   NONINTERVIEWS(-5)   491
MINIMUM:       1      MAXIMUM:      7
```

Questionnaire Location
Description of Variable
Frequency Distribution
Coding Conventions (missing responses)
Coding Information (categorical variables)
File Name
Variable Location
Verbatim

NLS Documentation Item Descriptions

The following are brief definitions of the various types of information which appear within the NLS codebooks, KWIC and numeric indices. Wherever possible, reference is made within each definition to actual items found on the Original Cohort and NLSY codebook sample pages which appear at the end of this section. While these descriptions focus primarily on items found within the codebooks, the numeric and KWIC indices as well as other NLS documentation contain similar reference items.

Coding Conventions (Missing Responses):

The following coding conventions for missing responses apply to the Original Cohorts: "NA" denotes the uniform nonresponse code; "DK" denotes the uniform "Don't Know" code; and "# NEGATIVE" denotes the uniform number of negative codes exclusive of "NA" and "DK." A more detailed discussion of these Original Cohort missing response categories can be found in Section 4 of this Handbook.

Five missing response coding conventions are utilized within the NLSY data: (1) noninterview (-5); (2) valid skip (-4); (3) invalid skip (-3); (4) don't know (-2); and (5) refusal (-1).

Coding Information:

Appearing below the variable description in each codebook entry is a section containing the set of legitimate codes that a variable may assume along with a text entry describing the codes. Code entries can either be:

(1) discrete (categorical), as in the case of the NLSY example ACTIVITY MOST OF SURVEY WEEK CPS ITEM 81 INT

1 WORKING
2 NOT AT WORK
3 LOOKING FOR WORK
4 KEEPING HOUSE
5 GOING TO SCHOOL
6 UNABLE TO WORK
7 OTHER

OR

(2) continuous (quantitative), as in the case of the original cohort example HOURLY RATE_OF_PAY AT CURRENT_OR_LAST_JOB_81 *KEY*.

0 THRU 9998 ACTUAL DOLLARS AND CENTS (2 implied decimal places)

1-99
100-199
200-299
300-399
400-499
500-599
600-699
700-799
800-899
900-999
1000 +

Where coding information is especially complex and detailed, codebook entries will refer the user to the various codebook attachments.

Derivations:

The decision rules employed in the creation of constructed variables have been included, whenever possible, in the codebook under the title "DERIVATIONS". This information is designed to enable researchers to determine whether available constructs are appropriate to their needs. In the case of the illustrative NLSY variable, ACTIVITY MOST OF SURVEY WEEK CPS ITEM 81 INT, no derivation is shown because this variable is picked up directly from the interview schedule. In the original cohort example, HOURLY RATE_OF_PAY AT CURRENT_OR_LAST_JOB_81 *KEY*, the derivation describes in detail the items of the interview schedule used to create the variable. In certain cases, the codebook will refer the user to a variable creation appendix for the decision rules that were used in creating a variable, since the creation is too extensive to be included in the codebook.

Description of Variable:

Adjacent to each reference number is a phrase which: (1) provides a brief summary of the content of the variable; (2) serves as a heading for the cases which appear below it; and (3) represents the variable within the KWIC and numeric indices. The underscoring between words found in the original cohort entries, e.g., HOURLY RATE_OF_PAY AT CURRENT_OR_LAST_JOB 81 *KEY*, enables the computer to read and sort a string of words as one index word.

Several conventions have been used in developing the variable descriptions:

(1) When the description of a variable includes the phrase XX INT, as in the illustrative NLSY codebook entry, this means that the variable relates to the indicated survey year. When a date follows a verbal description of a variable without being preceded by the preposition "in", the date identifies the year of the survey in which the relevant information was collected (see first example below). When a date follows a verbal description of a variable and is preceded by the preposition "in 19XX", the date identifies the calendar year for which the

relevant information was collected (see the second example below). To ascertain exact time periods covered, users should consult the wording of the questionnaire item and the time at which the survey was conducted.

NUMBER OF WEEKS_WORKED IN PAST YEAR, 1967 is the number of weeks worked in the 12 month period preceding the 1967 survey.

NUMBER OF WEEKS_WORKED IN 1980 is the number of weeks worked in calendar year 1980 (ascertained in the 1981 survey).

(2) If two ostensibly identical variables differ only in that they refer to different universes of respondents, the universe definitions are depicted in the following ways:

(a) for original cohort entries: universe information is appended in parentheses to the variable description:

HAS RESPONDENT BEEN SEEKING EMPLOYMENT DURING PAST FOUR WEEKS (UNEMPLOYED 81); or

HAS RESPONDENT BEEN SEEKING EMPLOYMENT DURING PAST FOUR WEEKS (OLF 81)

(b) for NLSY entries: universe information is included either in parentheses within the titles, as illustrated above, or added to the text of the title as space allows, i.e.,

FEMALE-NUMBER OF CHILDREN R HAS HAD SINCE LAST INTERVIEW? 83 INT (a universe of only female respondents).

(3) Dichotomous variables are usually put in question form. For example, DID RESPONDENT WORK AT ALL SURVEY_WEEK 81?

File Name:

Multiple file NLSY codebooks and numerics list the file name or record type for each variable. In the case of ACTIVITY MOST OF SURVEY WEEK CPS ITEM 81 INT, that variable is located in the CPS file, one of the 52 files on the NLSY tape.

Frequency Distribution:

In the case of discrete (categorical) variables, frequency counts are normally shown to the left of the code categories, as illustrated by the ACTIVITY MOST OF SURVEY WEEK variable. In the case of continuous (quantitative) variables, a distribution of the variable is presented using a convenient class interval. The format of these distributions varies. In the case of the illustrative variable, HOURLY RATE_OF_PAY AT CURRENT_OR_LAST JOB 81 *KEY*, the frequency count is straightforward. There are twelve categories; the maximum category shown is 1000 and above (since two decimal places are implied, the figure 1000 represents $10.00 and above), for which there is a frequency count of 143.

KEY Variables

These variables are important or 'key' in that they are likely to be widely used and/or difficult to create. They are denoted within the codebooks by *KEY* which appears at the end of the variable description phrase. All KEY variables are also clustered at the very beginning of each KWIC index, under the reference word *KEY*, and are listed within a separate file KEYVARS within the numeric index. Section 2 contains a more detailed discussion of key and created variables for the various cohorts.

Questionnaire Item or Questionnaire Location:

Original Cohorts: QUESTION reference numbers are located in the extreme right hand column of the codebook and also appear in both the KWIC and numeric indices. Five QUESTION identifications are possible:

(1) The absence of a "QUESTION" entry indicates that a variable was not picked up directly from the interview schedule; i.e., it is a created variable. In the illustrative original codebook entry, HOURLY RATE_OF_PAY AT CURRENT_OR_LAST_JOB_81 *KEY*, there is no entry in the questionnaire item space indicating that this variable is not picked up directly from the interview schedule.

(2) The convention "CH XX" is used to identify check items that occur within the survey. Their purpose is to direct the interviewer to the next appropriate question.

(3) The convention "R" denotes a reference item. Typically, reference items are grouped in a section of the survey instrument called the "Information Sheet." Information that interviewers frequently refer to during the course of an interview, e.g., dates, are located in this area.

(4) In some cases, only the page number ("PG") of the questionnaire on which a particular item appears is identified.

(5) Finally, in the vast majority of cases, the QUESTION reference is to a specific questionnaire item found on the survey, e.g., 22F or 3B.

NLSY: The questionnaire location for NLSY entries appears in parentheses directly after the Reference Number: for example, R 4434. (SO6D1314). Three questionnaire location conventions are used in the codebook.

(1) For the 1979 variables, the questionnaire item refers to the section and question number within that section. For example, (SO2Q01) refers to section 2, question 1.

(2) Questionnaire items for the years 1980-82 are referenced accordingly: SO6D1314 refers to section 6 of the questionnaire (SO6); deck 13 (D13); and column 14 (14).

(3) Beginning with the 1983 survey, the questionnaire item simply refers to the deck and column number of the variable in the questionnaire.

Section, deck, and question numbers have been somewhat arbitrarily assigned by NORC to the information and questions found in the special survey instruments like the household screener, the information sheet items, the children's record forms, the household enumeration, and the employer supplements. The section and deck numbers for these special survey items were numbered sequentially after the main survey items and their specific order varies each year.

The exception to this is the assignment of the deck numbers for the employer supplements. For each survey year, each employer supplement requires four decks of 80 columns. For survey years 1980 through 1983 and the 1987 survey year, the deck assignments for the employer supplements are lettered from B to F. For example, the decks for the first employer supplement would be B1, B2, B3, and B4; the decks for the second employer supplement would be C1, C2, C3, and C4, etc.

For the survey years 1984, 1985, and 1986, the deck numbers are assigned sequentially. The following listing gives the employer supplement deck numbers for each of those three years.

1984: Job # 1, deck 79 thru deck 82
Job # 2, deck 83 thru deck 86
Job # 3, deck 87 thru deck 90
Job # 4, deck 91 thru deck 94
Job # 5, deck 95 thru deck 98

1985: Job # 1, deck 58 thru deck 61
Job # 2, deck 62 thru deck 65
Job # 3, deck 66 thru deck 69
Job # 4, deck 70 thru deck 73
Job # 5, deck 74 thru deck 77

1986: Job # 1, deck 73 thru deck 76
Job # 2, deck 77 thru deck 80
Job # 3, deck 81 thru deck 84
Job # 4, deck 85 thru deck 88
Job # 5, deck 89 thru deck 92

If an NLSY variable is not taken directly from one of the survey instruments, the questionnaire location contains an asterisk (*) within the codebook or is blank in the KWIC and Numeric indices. The following categories of variables will have no questionnaire numbers: (1) assigned identification numbers for the respondent, family unit, etc.; (2) created or KEY variables; (3) variables from the following special surveys: Profiles ASVAB), the School Survey, and the Transcript Survey; and (4) variables found on constructed data files such as the Supplemental Fertility File.

Location information for the questionnaire items are depicted within the survey instruments as follows. The deck numbers are printed at the top of each page in the survey instruments beginning in 1980. The column numbers are printed to the left of the questions. If the variable contains more than one digit, the column reference is to the first number in the column range for that variable.

Reference Number:

The reference number is a unique identification number assigned to each variable which determines its relative position within the codebook and which will remain constant through subsequent revisions of the files. Its format is Ref___#:XXXX for the original cohorts or RXXXX.XX for the NLSY. The reference number is t identifier to be used when communicating about a variable with CHRR.

Split Variables:

Split variables for the original cohorts are indicated within the KWIC Index by a plus sign (+) to the right of the "VBL #". Split variables are discussed in detail in Section 4 of the handbook.

Universe Information:

Universe information for the original cohorts through surveys conducted as of 1976 is printed as separate line items in the codebook. However, not all questionnaire items asked during this period exist as "variables," although the universe information which would have appeared in these kinds of items is included in Attachment 1 "Questionnaire Items." Subsequent to 1976, universes can be tracked by referring to the "flowchart" associated with a survey conducted in a particular year, e.g., Young Women 1983 Universes.

Valid Values Range:

Depicted below the frequency distribution is information relating to the range of valid values for that particular distribution. "MINIMUM" indicates the smallest recorded value exclusive of "NA" and "DK". "MAXIMUM" indicates the largest recorded value. In the case of "HOURLY RATE_OF_PAY" this value is 2500 ($25.00).

Variable Location:

NLSY codebook entries depict the variable location directly below the file name. In the example, ACTIVITY DURING MOST OF SURVEY WEEK CPS ITEM 81 INT., the numbers 210-211 (2) indicate that the variable is in columns 210-211 and has a length of two.

Variable Number:

The variable number entry for the original cohorts, i.e., VBL #: 5198 for the HOURLY RATE_OF_PAY example, identifies the physical location of the variable on the tape.

Verbatim:

When an NLSY variable is taken directly from the questionnaire, the verbatim question appears beneath the variable description. If a question results in more than one variable, the first variable contains the verbatim while subsequent variables prompt the user to refer back to the variable containing the verbatim. The following verbatim example for the reference numbers 3194. and 3195. demonstrate this convention:

R 3194. IN WHICH MONTHS OF 1979 DID YOU (OR YOUR HUSBAND/WIFE) RECEIVE SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME? JANUARY 80 INT

R 3195. SEE R (3194.) FEBRUARY 80 INT

NLS Documentation Order Form

Name:____
Organization:____________________________________
Department:____________________________________
Address:_______________________________________
City____________State:____________Zip:_____________
Phone: (__)____________________________

NLSY DOCUMENTATION

NLSY main file documentation is available for either all survey years or the most recent survey year. Select items (survey instruments, flowcharts, and interviewer reference manuals) can be purchased by year.

NLSY Survey Instruments	[ ]	All Years(Y01)	$	90.00
	[ ]	Single Year (C01)	$	10.00
		Specify Year(s):		
NLSY KWIC Index	[ ]	All Years(Y02)	$	25.00
	[ ]	Current Year(C02)	$	5.00
NLSY Numeric Index	[ ]	All Years(Y03)	$	15.00
	[ ]	Current Year(C03)	$	5.00
NLSY Codebook		[ ] All Years(Y04)	$	65.00
	[ ]	Current Year(C04)	$	15.00
NLSY Attachments & Appendices	[ ]	All Years(Y05)	$	6.00
	[ ]	Current Year(C05)	$	3.00
NLSY Technical Sampling Report & Addendum	[ ]	All Years(Y06)	$	5.00
	[ ]	Current Year(C06)	$	1.00
NLSY Household Screener & IRM	[ ]	1978 (Y08)	$	7.00
NLSY Complete Documentation Set		[ ] All Years(Y09)	$	230.00
	[ ]	Current Year(C09)	$	45.00
NLSY Flowcharts	[ ]	All Years(Y10)	$	27.00
	[ ]	Single Year (C10)	$	3.00
		Specify Year(s):		
NLSY Interviewer Reference Manuals	[ ]	All Years(Y11)	$	90.00
	[ ]	Single Year (C11)	$	10.00
		Specify Year(s):		
Other:	[ ]	(D999)	$	
	[ ]	(D999)	$	
	[ ]	(D999)	$	

NLSY SPECIAL FILE DOCUMENTATION

[ ] NLSY Workhistory Documentation - All Years	(S01)	$	15
[ ] NLSY Geocode 1979-82 Documentation	(S02)	$	5

[ ] NLSY Geocode 1983-87 Documentation	(S03)	$	6
[ ] NLSY 1986 Child Raw Item File Documentation	(S04)	$	15
[ ] NLSY 1979-86 Child Merged Documentation	(S05)	$	25
[ ] NLSY Child Assessment Packet - 1986	(S06)	$	15
[ ] NLSY Supplemental Fertility Documentation	(S07)	$	5
[ ] High School & Transcript Survey Codebook	(S08)	$	6
[ ] Profile of American Youth - Attachment 106	(S09)	$	3
[ ] Fertility Related Data in the 1982 NLSY	(S10)	$	7
[ ] Evaluation of Fertility Data - 1983 NLSY	(S11)	$	7
[ ] Selected Tables: NLSY	(S12)	$	2
[ ] Child Assessment Measures in the 1986 NLSY	(S13)	$	2
[ ] Inconsistencies in Marital History Memo	(S14)	$	1
[ ] Inconsistencies in Age at Birth Memo	(S15)	$	1
[ ] Other:	(D999)	$	
[ ]	(D999)	$	

ORIGINAL COHORT DOCUMENTATION

Original cohort documentation is available by cohort and includes all survey years for each cohort ordered.

Specify cohort: Men(M) Women(W) Young Men(B) Young Women(G)

[ ] Set of Questionnaires	(01)	$	12.00
[ ] KWIC & Numeric Indices	(02)	$	20.00
[ ] Codebook	(04)	$	50.00
[ ] Attachments	(05)	$	8.00
[ ] Codebook Supplement	(07)	$	8.00
[ ] Household Record Cards & Flow Charts	(08)	$	2.00
[ ] Complete Documentation Set	(09)	$	100.00
[ ] Set of Interviewer Reference Manuals	(11)	$	25.00
[ ] Other: ______________________	(D999)	$	
[ ] ______________________	(D999)	$	

FOR CHRR USE ONLY

Date Received	Total Order	Total Paid
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7

NLS PUBLICATIONS

The NLS Public Users' Office distributes a variety of materials designed to keep the research community up-to-date on both the current status of the surveys and on-going NLS research. This section provides brief descriptions of the general publications as well as NLS research reports which are available to the public user. Those wishing to order any of the following items should reference the Item # and cost information found within each description and return a completed Publication Request Form to the NLS Public User's Office. BITNET users can access select publications as well as the Publication Request Form through NLSERVE.

General Publications

The NLS Handbook 1988.

This handbook is issued yearly and contains information on the development of the NLS research project, descriptions of the various surveys which comprise the NLS, technical information on sampling procedures and field work, summaries by cohort and year of the types of data collected, as well as ordering information for the various data files, documentation, and publications. The handbook is available free-of-charge and can be ordered by referencing Item #1000.

The NLSY Child Handbook & User's Guide.

This child handbook, designed to assist users of the 1986 Merged Child-Mother file, briefly describes both the longitudinal data on mothers and children collected since 1979 and discusses in greater detail the 1986 cross-sectional child assessment data. It places the NLSY child data collection efforts in the context of the NLSY surveys and explains the link between data found on the child tape and variables found either in the main cohort dataset or in other special NLSY tapes.

The child handbook describes each of the child assessments administered in the 1986 survey round and the criteria used in their selection. It outlines the field procedures used in administering the assessments, the interviewer training required and the types of field conditions encountered. Indicators of the reliability and validity of the assessments are provided as well as references to other studies in which the same or similar measures were used.

This handbook includes information on how the assessments were scored and what types of summary scores appear on the merged child-mother tape. A variety of descriptive materials about the assessments are discussed, including tabular information relating the distribution of the various outcome scores to a number of child and maternal characteristics, correlations between the various assessments, selected reliability coefficients and a discussion of potential biases due to attrition. Data users are informed of certain nuances of the various assessments, the limitations of the data, and specific instructions on how to properly access and use the child assessment variables. Of particular importance to users is a section discussing the nature of the mother and child samples. In addition to a number of descriptive tables, details on the child data public use tapes and related documentation are provided.

The handbook is available free-of-charge and can be ordered by referencing Item # 1005.

The NLS UPDATE Newsletter.

A quarterly newsletter is prepared and distributed at no cost to all data file purchasers as well as other interested persons. The newsletter contains: updates on the status and availability of the various NLS data tapes; notice to users of data file or documentation errors; titles, citations, and abstracts of completed research; brief descriptions of in-progress research; and other information of general interest to the NLS research community. Persons interested in subscribing to the newsletter should request Item #1001 on the Publication Request Form. The NLS UPDATE is available to BITNET users via NLSERVE SUBSCRIB.INFO.

The NLS Annotated Bibliographies.

The Center actively maintains an up-to-date archive of NLS research and regularly publishes an annotated bibliography. The first NLS bibliography was compiled by Center staff and published by Lexington Books in 1985 (The National Longitudinal Surveys of Labor Market Experience: An Annotated Bibliography of Research, edited by Kezia V. Sproat, Helene Churchill, and Carol Sheets). Containing over 800 abstracts of NLS-based journal articles, working papers, and dissertations, this initial volume covered known research conducted from the mid-60s through the mid-80s.

The **1988 NLS Bibliography Update** is currently available and contains approximately 550 entries of recently completed research as well as earlier research not included in the initial bibliography. Each entry contains an abstract, citation, a list of keywords, specification of the NLS cohort(s) utilized in the research, as well as an identification number for easy referencing. The 1988 bibliography update is available from the Center at no cost and may be ordered by requesting Item #1002.

NLS researchers are encouraged to keep the Center informed of their completed or in-progress NLS research projects. A 'Call for NLS Research' form is provided in Section 8 of this handbook.

NLS Research Summaries.

A bibliography data base has been developed by CHRR which allows retrieval of NLS research by specific authors, cohorts, or keywords. Designed to assist the NLS researcher in reviewing work conducted to date on selected topics and/or given cohorts, research summaries are provided at no cost to NLS public users. Persons interested in this service should contact the NLS Public Users' Office.

Research Reports

The Center continues to distribute NLS research reports prepared over the past 20 years by the Center's research staff. These reports include the major cohort research volumes prepared under contract for the Department of Labor as well as other special reports generated by Center investigators.

The following section presents the major cohort research volumes by chapter followed by an alphabetical listing by author of the special NLS reports. The major cohort volumes are available for $2 per chapter while each of the special reports are provided for $2 per report. Users interested in ordering any of these NLS publications should reference the Item # which appears beside each entry and return the completed Publication Request Form to the NLS Public Users' Office. Note: Certain major cohort research volumes prepared by the Center were subsequently printed and distributed by publishing houses. These appear within the listing below without chapter headings or Item #s and are available only through your local library, bookstore, or the publisher.

Major NLS Cohort Research Volumes

Older Men's Cohort

The Pre-Retirement Years, Volume I: A Longitudinal Study of the Labor Market Experience of the Cohort of Men 45-59 Years of Age. Herbert S. Parnes, Belton M. Fleisher, Robert C. Miljus, Ruth S. Spitz, et alia. 1968.

1	Introduction (Parnes)	10
2	Demographic and Economic Characteristics (Parnes, Bradner and Schmidt)	11

3 Variation in Labor Market Participation (Fleisher and Egge) 12
4 Incidence of Unemployment (Fleisher and Egge) 13
5 Mobility and Job Attachment (Parnes) 14
6 Propensity to Retire (Miljus, Kohen and Schmidt) 15
7 Work Attitudes (Spitz) 16
8 Conclusion (Parnes) 17

The Pre-Retirement Years, Volume II: A Longitudinal Study of the Labor Market Experience of the Cohort of Men 45-59 Years of Age. Herbert S. Parnes, Karl Egge, Andrew I. Kohen, and Ronald M. Schmidt. 1970.

1 Introduction. 18
2 Changes in Selected Personal Characteristics 1966-1967. 19
3 Changes in Labor Force and Employment Status 20
4 The Job Changes of Employed Workers 21
5 Concluding Observations. 22

The Pre-Retirement Years, Volume III: A Longitudinal Study of the Labor Market Experience of the Cohort of Men 45-59 Years of Age. Herbert S. Parnes, Gilbert Nestel, and Paul Andrisani. 1973.

1 Changes in Personal and Family Characteristics 23
2 Longitudinal Measures of Labor Force Participation and Unemployment 24
3 Job Changes 25
4 Collective Bargaining Coverage and Hourly Rate of Pay 26
5 Summary and Conclusions 27

The Pre-Retirement Years, Volume IV: Five Years in the Work Lives of Middle-Aged Men. Herbert S. Parnes, Arvil V. Adams, Paul Andrisani, Andrew I. Kohen, and Gilbert Nestel. 1974.

1 Introduction and Overview (Parnes) 28
2 Earnings and Employment of Middle-Aged Men: A Special Study of Their Investment in Human Capital (Adams) 29
3 Middle-Aged Job Changers (Parnes and Nestel) 30

4 Occupational Mobility Among Middle-Aged Men (Kohen)	31
5 Early Retirement (Parnes and Nestel)	32
6 Internal-External Control and Labor Market Experience (Andrisani and Nestel)	33
7 Conclusions (Parnes)	34

The Pre-Retirement Years, Volume V. Herbert S. Parnes, Gilbert Nestel, Thomas N. Chirikos, Thomas N. Daymont, and Frank L. Mott. PB80-154636. Published as **Work and Retirement: A Longitudinal Study of Men.** Edited by Herbert S. Parnes. Cambridge, Mass.: The MIT Press, 1981.

The Pre-Retirement Years, Volume VI. Herbert S. Parnes, Joan E. Crowley, R. Jean Haurin, Lawrence L. Less, William R. Morgan, Frank L. Mott, and Gilbert Nestel. Published as **Retirement Among American Men.** Edited by Herbert S. Parnes. Lexington, Mass.: Lexington Books, 1985.

Work and Retirement Data Book: National Longitudinal Surveys of Middle-Aged and Older Men 1966-1976. Herbert S. Parnes, Lawrence Less, and Gilbert Nestel. 1980.

150 statistical tables based on the Older Men's cohort	35

From Work to Retirement: The Experience of a National Sample of Men. Herbert S. Parnes and Lawrence Less. 1983.

1 Introduction: The Volume of Attainments 1966-1978	36
2 The Retirement Experience: Economic Factors	37
3 Social Psychological Aspects of Retirement	38

Young Men's Cohort

Career Thresholds, Volume I: A Longitudinal Study of the Educational and Labor Market Experience of Male Youth 14-24 Years of Age. Herbert S. Parnes, Robert Miljus, Ruth S. Spitz, et alia. 1969.

1 Introduction (Parnes, Fleisher, Miljus, Spitz, et alia)	39
2 Demographic and Social Characteristics (Parnes)	40
3 Labor Force and Employment Status (Parnes and Miljus)	41
4 Employment Patterns (Spitz and Parnes)	42
5 Knowledge of the World of Work (Parnes)	43
6 Job Satisfaction and Job Attachment (Spitz and Parnes)	44
7 Educational and Occupational Aspirations (Miljus)	45
8 Summary and Conclusions (Parnes and Spitz)	335

Career Thresholds, Volume II: A Longitudinal Study of the Educational and Labor Market Experience of Male Youth 14-24 Years of Age. Frederick A. Zeller, John R. Shea, Andrew I Kohen, and Jack A. Meyer. 1970.

1 Changes in School Enrollment Status (Meyer)	46
2 Changes in Labor Force and Employment Status (Kim and Murphy)	47
3 Job Changes by Out-of-School Youth (Kohen)	48
4 Changes in Educational Aspirations of High School Youth (Zeller and Shea)	49
5 Concluding Observations (Roderick and Zeller)	50

Career Thresholds, Volume III: A Longitudinal Study of the Educational and Labor Market Experience of Male Youth. Andrew I. Kohen and Herbert S. Parnes. 1971.

1 Introduction (Kohen)	51
2 Stability and Change in Labor Force and Employment Status: Out-of-School Youth (Kohen)	52
3 Cumulative Duration and Spells of Unemployment over a Two-Year Period: Out-of-School Youth (Kohen)	53
4 Changes in Job Status of Employed Out-of-School Youth (Parnes)	54
5 Concluding Observations (Parnes)	55

Career Thresholds, Volume IV: A Longitudinal Study of the Educational and Labor Market Experience of Male Youth. Andrew I. Kohen and Paul Andrisani. 1974.

1 Introduction (Kohen) 56
2 Labor Market Experience of High School Graduates and Dropouts (Kohen and Andrisani) 57
3 Labor Market Experiences of Out-of-School Youth (Kohen) 58
4 Changes in the Educational and Occupational Goals of Students (Kohen) 59
5 Summary and Conclusions (Kohen) 60

Career Thresholds, Volume V: A Longitudinal Study of the Educational and Labor Market Experience of Male Youth. Paul Andrisani and Andrew I. Kohen. 1975.

Unionization and the Labor Market Experiences of Young Blue Collar Workers (Andrisani and Kohen) 61

Career Thresholds, Volume VI: A Longitudinal Study of the Educational and Labor Market Experience of Young Men. Andrew I. Kohen, John T. Grasso, Steven C. Meyers, and Patricia M. Shields. 1977.

1 Introduction (Kohen) 62
2 The Formation and Revision of Goals by Young Men (Grasso) 63
3 The Labor Market Effects of Investment in Human Capital (Grasso and Meyers) 64
4 Antecedents and Consequences of Occupational Mobility (Kohen) 65
5 Dimensions of Youth Unemployment (Grasso) 66
6 Determinants and Consequences of Service in the Armed Forces During the Vietnam Era (Kohen and Shields) 67
7 Conclusions (Kohen) 68

Market Defenses: Early Work Decisions of Today's Middle-Aged Men (Career Thresholds, Volume VII, revised). Stephen M. Hills, Brian Becker, Choongsoo Kim, Ronald D'Amico, Thomas N. Daymont, Russell Rumberger, Steven H. Sandell, and Mark J. Bils. 1983.

1 Introduction (Hills) 69
2 The Nature and Consequences of Teenage Unemployment in

the School to Work Transition (Becker and Hills) 70
3 The Labor Market Choices of Male Youth: A Longitudinal Analysis of the School-to-Work Transition (Hills and Kim) 71
4 Industrial Organization, Economic Conditions, and the Labor Market Success of Young Men (D'Amico and Daymont) 72
5 The Declining Labor Market Opportunities for College Graduates (Rumberger) 73
6 Investment in College Quality: Its Impact on Earnings and Graduate School Attendance (Sandell and Bils) 74
7 The Intensity of Occupational Training and Its Effect on Earnings (Rumberger) 75
8 Changes in the Relative Opportunities of Young Black Males: Earnings and Employment (Daymont) 76
9 Summary and Conclusions (Hills) 77

Career Thresholds, Volume VIII: A Longitudinal Study of Labor Market Experience of Young Men. Stephen M. Hills, Ronald D'Amico, Jeff Golon, John Jackson, Janina Latack, Lisa Lynch, and David Shapiro. Published as **The Changing Labor Market: A Longitudinal Study of Young Men.** Edited by Stephen M. Hills (with additional material by Stephen L. Mangum and David E. Ball). Lexington, Mass.: Lexington Books, 1986.

Mature Women's Cohort

Dual Careers, Volume I: A Longitudinal Study of Labor Market Experience of Women. Herbert S. Parnes, John R. Shea, Ruth S. Spitz, Frederick A. Zeller et alia. 1970.

1 Introduction (Parnes, Fleisher, Miljus, Spitz et alia) 78
2 Selected Characteristics of the Sample (Spitz) 79
3 Labor Force Participation (Egge and Meyer) 80
4 Employment Patterns (Zeller) 81
5 Occupational and Geographic Mobility (Shea) 82
6 Work Attitudes, Satisfaction, and Job Attachment (Shea) 83

7 Summary and Conclusions (Shea)	84

Dual Careers, Volume II: A Longitudinal Study of Labor Market Experience of Women. Sookon Kim, Roger D. Roderick, and John R. Shea. 1973.

1 Sample Attrition and Changes in Family and Labor Force Status (Kim)	85
2 Changes in Labor Force and Employment Status (Kim and Murphy)	86
3 Changes in Job Status (Roderick and Davis)	87
4 Summary and Conclusions (Shea)	88

Dual Careers, Volume III: A Longitudinal Study of Labor Market Experience of Women. Herbert S. Parnes, Carol L. Jusenius, and Richard L. Shortlidge, Jr. 1975.

1 Changes in Labor Force Status 1967-1971 (Jusenius and Shortlidge)	89
2 Occupational Change, 1967-1971 (Jusenius)	90
3 Child Care and the Need for Day Care Centers and Homes in 1971 (Shortlidge)	91
4 Changes in Child Care Arrangements of Working Women Between 1965 and 1971 (Shortlidge)	92
5 Summary and Conclusions (Shortlidge and Jusenius)	93

Dual Careers, Volume IV: A Longitudinal Study of Labor Market Experience of Women. Herbert S. Parnes, Carol L. Jusenius, Francine Blau, Gilbert Nestel, Richard Shortlidge, and Steven Sandell. 1975.

1 Introduction and Overview (Jusenius and Parnes)	94
2 Longitudinal Patterns of Female Labor Force Participation (Blau)	95
3 Factors in Career Orientation and Occupational Status (Parnes and Nestel)	96
4 The Influence of Work Experience and Typicality of Occupational Assignment on Women's Earnings (Jusenius)	97

5 Patterns of Child Care Utilization Among Women with Preschool Children (Shortlidge) 98
6 The Economics of Family Migration (Sandell) 99
7 Voluntary Job Changing (Parnes and Nestel) 100
8 Conclusions (Parnes) 101

Dual Careers, Volume V: A Longitudinal Study of the Labor Market Experience of Woman. Thomas N. Chirikos, Thomas Daymont, Jacqueline Mercier, Gilbert Nestel, Theresa O'Brien, Patricia Rhoton, Lois B. Shaw, and Anne Statham. PB86-144995-XAB. Published as **Unplanned Careers: The Working Lives of Middle-Aged Women.** Edited by Lois B. Shaw. Lexington, Mass.: Lexington Books, 1983.

Dual Careers, Volume VI: A Longitudinal Study of the Labor Market Experience of Women. Lois B. Shaw, Ronald D'Amico, Mary Gagen, Robert Gitter, Donald R. Haurin, William R. Morgan, Frank L. Mott and Elizabeth Peters. PB86-144995-XAB. Published as **Midlife Women at Work: A Fifteen-Year Perspective.** Edited by Lois B. Shaw. Lexington, Mass.: Lexington Books, 1986.

Young Women's Cohort

Years for Decision, Volume I: A Longitudinal Study of the Educational and Labor Market Experiences of Young Women. John R. Shea, Roger D. Roderick, Frederick A. Zeller, Andrew I. Kohen, et alia. 1971.

1 Introduction (Parnes, Fleisher, Miljus, Spitz, et alia) 102
2 Demographic and Social Characteristics (Meyer and Shea) 103
3 Labor Force and Employment Status of Students (Kohen) 104
4 Labor Force Participation of Nonstudents (Egge) 105
5 Unemployment Experience of Nonstudents (Roderick, Shea and Kim 106
6 Employment Patterns (Roderick, Zeller, and Davis) 107
7 Educational Aspirations (Zeller and Shea) 108
8 Summary and Conclusions (Shea) 109

Years for Decision, Volume II: A Longitudinal Study of the Educational and Labor Market Experiences of Young Women. Roger D. Roderick. 1974.

1 Introduction (Davis)	110
2 Changes in Job Status of Out-of-School Youth (Roderick)	111
3 Knowledge of the World of Work (Roderick and Davis)	112
4 Summary (Roderick)	113

Years for Decision, Volume III: A Longitudinal Study of the Educational and Labor Market Experiences of Young Women. Roger D. Roderick and Andrew I. Kohen. 1976.

1 Changes in Educational and Occupational Aspirations (Roderick and Kohen)	114
2 Stability and Change in Labor Force and Employment A Status Among Nonstudents (Roderick and Kohen)	115
3 Changes in Job Status of Employed Out-of-School Youth (Roderick and Kohen)	116
4 Summary (Roderick and Kohen)	124

Years for Decision, Volume IV: A Longitudinal Study of the Educational, Labor Market, and Family Experience of Young Women, 1968 to 1973. Frank L. Mott, Steven H. Sandell, David Shapiro, Patricia K. Brito, Timothy J. Carr, Rex C. Johnson, Carol L. Jusenius, Peter J. Koenig, and Sylvia Moore. 1977.

1 Introduction and Conclusions (Mott)	440
2 Young Women and Higher Education (Sandell and Johnson)	441
3 Work and Motherhood: The Dynamics of Labor Force Participation Surrounding the First Birth (Mott and Shapiro)	442
4 Occupational Expectations for Age 35 (Brito and Jusenius)	443
5 Investments in Human Capital and the Earnings of Young Women (Shapiro and Carr)	444
6 The Geographic Mobility of Young Women and Their Families (Sandell and Koenig)	445

7 Marital Disruption: Causes and Consequences
(Mott and Moore) 446

Years for Decision, Volume IV: A Longitudinal Study of the Educational, Labor Market and Family Experiences of Young Women, 1968 to 1973. Frank L. Mott, Steven H. Sandell, David Shapiro, Patricia K. Brito, Timothy J. Carr, Rex C. Johnson, Carol L. Jusenius, Peter J. Koenig, and Sylvia F. Moore. Published as **Women, Work, and Family: Dimensions of Change in American Society.** Edited by Frank L. Mott. Lexington, Mass.: Lexington Books, 1978.

Years for Decision, Volume V: A Longitudinal Study of the Educational, Labor Market and Family Experiences of Young Women, 1968 to 1978. Frank L. Mott, R. Jean Haurin, Lois B. Shaw, Anne Statham, Nan L. Maxwell, David Shapiro, and Sylvia F. Moore. 1981. Published as **The Employment Revolution: Young American Women of the 1970s.** Edited by Frank L. Mott. Cambridge, Mass.: The MIT Press, 1982.

NLSY

Pathways to the Future: A Longitudinal Study of Young Americans. Preliminary Report: Youth and the Labor Market--1979. Michael E. Borus, Joan E. Crowley, Russell W. Rumberger, Richard Santos, and David Shapiro. 1980.

1 Introduction (Borus) 125
2 The Employment Status of Youth (Santos) 126
3 Youth Employment Conditions (Shapiro) 127
4 Patterns of Youth Employment and Training (Shapiro) 128
5 Government-Sponsored Employment and Training (Crowley) 129
6 Working Students (Shapiro) 130
7 Youth Not in School or the Labor Force (Shapiro) 131
8 Job Turnover and Reasons for Leaving Jobs (Shapiro) 132
9 Job Search Activities of Youth (Santos) 133
10 Perceptions of Discrimination and Other Barriers
to Employment (Shapiro) 134
11 Willingness to Work (Borus) 135

12 Health Status of Youth (Santos)	136
13 Attitudes toward School (Rumberger)	137
14 Educational Aspirations and Expectations (Rumberger)	138
15 Vocational Education Student (Rumberger)	139
16 High School Dropouts (Rumberger)	140
17 College Students (Rumberger)	141
18 First Job after Leaving School (Rumberger)	142
19 Desire for Occupational Training (Crowley)	143
20 Aspirations for Age 35 (Shapiro)	144
21 Ideal, Desired, and Expected Fertility of Youth (Shapiro)	145
22 Attitudes toward Women Working, Fertility Expectations, and Their Relation to Educational and Occupational Expectations (Shapiro and Crowley)	146
23 Knowledge of the World of Work (Borus)	147
24 Influence on Youth's Life Decisions: The Role of Significant Others (Crowley)	148
25 Summary and Policy Recommendations (Borus)	149

Pathways to the Future: A Report on the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth Labor Market Experience in 1979. Michael E. Borus, Joan E. Crowley, Choongsoo Kim, Tom K. Pollard, Russell W. Rumberger, Richard Santos, and David Shapiro. 1981.

1 Introduction (Borus)	150
2 The Employment Status of Youth (Santos)	151
3 Youth Employment Conditions and the Wage Structure in the Youth Labor Market (Shapiro)	152
4 Youth Employment Patterns and Job Turnover (Shapiro)	153
5 Job Search Activities of Youth (Borus, Kim, and Santos)	154
6 Experiences in High School and College (Rumberger)	155
7 Government Sponsored Employment and Training (Crowley)	156
8 An Overview of the Post-School Vocational Training Experiences of Youth (Pollard)	157
9 Health Status of Youth (Santos)	158

10 Perceptions of Discrimination and Other Barriers to Employment (Shapiro)	159
11 Aspirations and Expectations for the Future: Education, Work Activity, and Fertility (Shapiro and Crowley)	160
12 Summary (Borus)	161

Pathways to the Future: A Longitudinal Study of Young Americans. Preliminary Report on the 1980 Survey. Michael E. Borus, Joan E. Crowley, Tom K. Pollard, and Richard Santos. 1981.

1 Introduction (Borus)	162
2 Employment Status of Youth--1980 (Santos)	163
3 Race and Sex Differences in the Employment Patterns of Youth (Pollard)	164
4 Government Employment and Training Programs: Comparisons of Characteristics, 1978-1979 (Crowley)	165
5 Education and the Schools Youth Attend (Borus)	166
6 Crime and Delinquency: Descriptions and Distributions (Crowley)	167

Pathways to the Future, Volume II. A Final Report on the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth Labor Market Experience in 1980. Michael E. Borus, Susan A. Carpenter, Joan E. Crowley, Tom Daymont, Choongsoo Kim, Tom K. Pollard, Russell Rumberger, and Richard Santos. 1982.

1 Employment Prospects of Unemployed Youth (Santos)	168
2 Changes over the 1970s in the Employment Patterns of Black and White Young Men (Pollard)	169
3 Changing Patterns in Black/White Wage and Reservation Wage Differentials (Kim)	170
4 Choices in Education (Borus and Carpenter)	171
5 The Effects of High School Curriculum on Labor Market Success (Rumberger and Daymont)	172
6 Delinquency and Employment: Substitutions or	

Spurious Associations (Crowley)	173

Excerpts from **Pathways to the Future, Vol. I (Final)** and **Pathways to the Future, Vol. II (Final)** were published as **Tomorrow's Workers.** Edited by Michael E. Borus. Lexington, Mass.: Lexington Books, 1983.

Pathways to the Future: A Longitudinal Study of Young Americans: Preliminary Report on the 1981 Survey. Michael E. Borus, Joan E. Crowley, Ronald D'Amico, Tom K. Pollard, and Richard Santos. 1982.

1 Introduction (Borus)	174
2 Employment Status of Youth (Santos)	175
3 Earnings Growth Differences Between Young Males and Females (Pollard)	176
4 Government Employment and Training: FY 1979-FY 1980 (Crowley)	177
5 The Time-Use Behavior of Adolescents (D'Amico)	178

Pathways to the Future, Volume III: A Final Report on the National Longitudinal Surveys of Youth Labor Market Experience in 1981. Michael E. Borus, Joan E. Crowley, Ronald D'Amico, Stephen M. Hills, and William Morgan. 1983.

1 The Quality of Youth Employment (Hills and Crowley)	179
2 Longitudinal Modeling of the Relationship Between Crime and Employment Among Young White Americans (Crowley)	180
3 Informal Peer Networks as an Integrative and Social Control Mechanism (D'Amico)	181
4 Schooling Effects on Youth from Public, Catholic, and Other Private High Schools (Morgan)	182

Excerpts from **Pathways to the Future, Volume II (Final)** and **Pathways to the Future, Volume III (Final)** were published as **Youth and the Labor Market: Analysis of the National Longitudinal Survey.** Edited by Michael E. Borus. Kalamazoo, Michigan: W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, 1984.

Pathways to the Future, Volume IV: A Report on the National Longitudinal Surveys of Youth Labor Market Experience in 1982. Paula Baker, Susan Carpenter, Joan E. Crowley, Ronald D'Amico, Choongsoo Kim, William Morgan, and John Wielgosz. 1984.

1 The Nature and Consequences of High School Employment (D'Amico and Baker)	183
2 A Longitudinal Study of Reservation Wages, Duration of Job Search, and Subsequent Wages: An Empirical Econometric Analysis (Kim)	184
3 The Effectiveness of Job Search and Job Finding Methods of Young Americans (Wielgosz and Carpenter)	185
4 Race, Employment, and Educational Attainment (Crowley)	186
5 Long-Term Outcomes of Government-Subsidized Employment and Training Programs (Crowley)	187
6 The High School Dropout in an Overeducated Society (Morgan)	188

Pathways to the Future, Volume V: A Report on the National Longitudinal Surveys of Youth Labor Market Experience in 1983. Paula Baker, Joan E. Crowley, Ronald D'Amico, Evangelos Falaris, William Morgan, Elizabeth Peters, and Richard Willke. 1985.

1 An Evaluation of Outcomes for Post-School Participants in Government Employment and Training Programs with Attention to Selectivity Bias (Willke)	189
2 Early Labor Market Differentiation among Terminal High School Graduates (D'Amico and Baker)	190
3 Business Cycle Effects on College Enrollment Behavior (Morgan)	191
4 Welfare Patterns among Young Mothers: A Descriptive Analysis (Crowley)	192
5 The Effect of Demographic Factors on Schooling and Entry Wages (Falaris and Peters)	193

Pathways to the Future, Vol. VI: A Report on the National Longitudinal Surveys of Labor Market Experience of Youth in 1984. Ronald D'Amico, Stephen M. Hills, Lisa Lynch, William Morgan, Gilbert Nestel, Randall Olsen, Donald Parsons, and Richard Willke. 1986.

1	Participation in Government Employment and Training Programs and Patterns in Employment, Income, Education and Welfare (Willke)	194
2	Work Experience and Future Employment Prospects (Lynch)	195
3	The Value of Time and Wage Offers: Selection in Longitudinal Data (Olsen)	196
4	High Youth Unemployment in the 1970's: Its Effect in the '80's (Hills)	197
5	With-In Family Variation in the Educational and Early Occupational Attainment Process (Morgan)	198
6	Why Does Work in High School Matter? (D'Amico)	199
7	Wage Determination in the Post-School Period: The Market for On-the-Job Training (Parsons)	200
8	Mobility and Wages (Nestel)	201

Research Papers and Reports

Adams, Arvil Van Nestel, Gilbert	1974	"Interregional Migration, Education and Poverty in the Urban Ghetto: Another Look at Black-White Earnings Differentials."	202
Andrisani, Paul J.	1973	"An Empirical Analysis of the Dual Labor Market Theory."	203
Becker, Brian Hills, Stephen	1979	"Teenage Unemployment: Some Evidence of the Long-Run Effects on Wages."	205
Becker, Brian E. Hills, Stephen M.	1979	"Teenage Locus of Control and Adult Employment."	206
Borus, Michael E. Kim, Choongsoo Johnson, Kyle	1982	"Policy Findings Related to Military Service From the Youth Cohort of the National Longitudinal Surveys of Labor Market Experience".	447
Borus, Michael E. Mott, Frank L.	1978	"Counting Youth: A Comparison of Youth Labor Force Statistics in the Current Population Survey and the National Longitudinal Surveys."	207

Nestel, Gilbert			
Carr, Timothy J.	1977	"A Comparative Study of the Duration of Unemployment of Young and Middle-Aged Men."	208
Chirikos, Thomas N. Nestel, Gilbert	1982	"Sex and Race Differentials in the Economic Consequences of Poor Health."	209
	1983	"Economic Aspects of Self Reported Work Disability."	210
	1983	"Further Evidence on the Economic Effects of Poor Health."	211
	1984	"Health-Pension Interactions in the Analysis of Early Retirement Trends."	212
	1985	"Health Status and Work Activity of Older Men: Events-History Analyses of Selected Social Policy Issues."	213
	1983	"Incidence and Chronicity of Functional Impairments in Older Men."	214
Cho, Woo Hyun	1983	"Promotion Prospects, Job Search, and the Quit Behavior of Employed Youth."	215
Crowley, Joan E.	1985	"The Demographics of Alcohol Use Among Young Americans: Results from the 1983 National Longitudinal Survey of Labor Market Experience of Youth."	216
	1985	"Status Variations in Alcohol Use Among Young Adults: Results from the 1984 National Longitudinal Surveys of Youth."	217
	1983	"Demographics of Alcohol Use Among Respondents of the 1982 National Longitudinal Survey of Labor Market Experience of Youth Panel."	218
D'Amico, Ronald	1981	"A Quantitative Procedure for the Assignment of Industries to Capital Sector Types."	219
	1982	"Status Maintenance or Status Competition?: Wife's Relative Wages as a Determinant of Labor Supply and Marital Instability."	220
	1981	"Supply and Demand Factors in Income Determination."	221
	1981	"Career Paths and Career Origins: The Effect of First Job Industry on the Attainments of Mature Men."	222
	1981	"Industrial Feudalism Reconsidered: The Effects of Unionization on Labor Mobility."	223
D'Amico, Ronald	1981	"Patterns of Labor Mobility in Dual Economy: The Case of Semi-	

Brown, Timothy		Skilled and Unskilled Workers."	224
Daymont, Thomas N.	1979	"Pay Premiums for Economic Sector and Race: A Decomposition."	227
	1980	"Racial Equity, Racial Equality, and Reverse Discrimination."	228
Diamond, Arthur	1983	"The Distribution and Determinants of Individual Wage Profile Slopes."	229
Eckstein, Zvi Wolpin, Kenneth I.	1986	"Dynamic Labor Force Participation of Married Women and Endogenous Work Experience."	230
Falaris, Evangelos	1983	"An Empirical Study of the Timing and Spacing of Childbearing."	231
Faulk, Diane R.C.	1972	"Job Expectation and Unemployment Among Young Women with Work Experience."	232
Fleisher, Belton M. Porter, Richard	1971	"Assets, Non-Employment Income and Alternative Models of Labor Supply."	233
Gonul, Fusun	1985	"Determining Whether Unemployment and Out-of-the-Labor Force are Distinct States."	234
Grasso, John T.	1975	"The Contributions of Vocational Education, Training, and Work Experience to the Early Career Achievements of Young Men."	448
Haurin, R. Jean Mott, Frank L.	1987	"Social Policy and Demographic Change: Trends in Survival for U.S. Males in the Years Preceding Retirement, 1966-1981."	449
Hills, Stephen M.	1983	"Attitudes of American Male Workers toward Union Certification."	235
	1981	"How Craftsmen Learn Their Skills: A Longitudinal Analysis."	236
	1982	"Longitudinal Analyses of Training Processes in the United States."	237
	1982	"A Longitudinal Analysis of the Monetary Benefits to Training for Craftsmen."	238
	1979	"Unemployment Insurance and the Duration of Unemployment: A Note on Ehrenberg and Oaxaca."	239
	1985	"The Effects of High Unemployment in the Late 1970s on the Wages of Young Men and Women."	260
Hills, Stephen M. Santos, Richard	1983	"Perceived Utility of Job Training Methods Among Young Men."	240
Hills, Stephen M. Thompson, John	1983	"Changing Family Composition and the Distribution of Family Income in the U.S."	241

Hills, Stephen M. Shaw, Lois B. Sproat, Kezia V.	1979	"Teenagers: What are Their Choices about Work?"	242
Hudis, Paula M. Macke, Anne S. Hayward, Mark D.	1981	"A Longitudinal Model of Sex-Role Attitudes, Labor Force Participation and Childbearing."	243
Kim, Choongsoo	1982	"Youth and the Military Service: 1980 National Longitudinal Survey Studies of Enlistment, Intentions to Serve, Reenlistment and Labor Experience Market of Veterans and Attriters."	245
	1983	"A Longitudinal Study of Enlistment in the Armed Forces, with Special Reference to the Effect of Intentions on Behavior."	246
	1982	"The All-Volunteer Force: 1979 NLS Studies of Enlistment, Intentions to Serve, and Intentions to Reenlist."	247
	1981	"On the Determinants of Reservation Wages: An Empirical Specification."	248
	1983	"Post-Service Educational Benefits and the All-Volunteer Force: Some Evidence from the Youth Cohort of the National Longitudinal Surveys."	249
Kim, Choongsoo Jackson, John L.	1983	"Wage Growth Rates of Young Men: A Longitudinal Analysis."	250
Kim, Choongsoo Nestel, Gilbert Phillips, Robert L. Borus, Michael E.	1980	"The All-Volunteer Force: An Analysis of Youth Participation, Attrition and Reenlistment."	252
Kim, Sookon	1972	"Cross-Substitution between Husband and Wife as One of the Factors Determining the Number of Hours of Labor Supplied by Married Women."	254
King, Randail H.	1978	"The Labor Market Consequences of Dropping Out of High School."	254
Kohen, Andrew I.	1973	"Determinants of Early Labor Market Success Among Young Men: Race, Ability, Quantity and Quality of Schooling."	450
Kohen, Andrew I. Breinich, Susan C. Shields, Patricia M.	1975	"Women and the Economy: A Bibliography and Review of the Literature on Sex Differentiation in the Labor Market."	255
Kohen, Andrew I. Roderick, Roger D.	1975	"The Effects of Race and Sex Discrimination on Early-Career Earnings."	256

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Morgan, William R.	1983	"Sibling Influences on the Career Plans of Male and Female Youth."	268
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Mott, Frank L. Haurin, R. Jean	1987	"The Interrelatedness of Age at First Intercourse, Early Pregnancy, Alcohol and Drug Use Among American Adolescents: Preliminary Results from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth Labor Market Experience."	332
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	1974	"The National Longitudinal Surveys: An Interim Assessment."	290
	1976	"The National Longitudinal Surveys: Lessons for Human Resource Policy."	291
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	1980	"An Overview of Results from the National Longitudinal Surveys."	293
Parnes, Herbert S. King, Randall	1977	"Middle Aged Job Losers."	452
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Rosenberg, Harry M.	1972	"The Influence of Fertility Strategies on the Labor-Force Status of American Wives.".299	
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Sandell, Steven H.	1979	"Job Search by Unemployed Women: Determinants of the Asking Wage."	301
	1980	"Lifetime Labor Force Participation of Married Women."	302
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Shapiro, David	1976	"Earnings Differentials Among Unionized Workers in the Public and Private Sectors."	310
Shaw, Lois B.	1979	"Changes in the Work Attachment of Married Women, 1966-1976."	311
	1984	"Determinants of Wage Growth after Labor Market Reentry."	312
	1983	"Does Working Part Time Contribute to Women's Occupational Segregation?"	313
	1979	"Does Living in a Single-Parent Family Affect High School Completion Rates for Young Women?"	314
	1978	"Economic Consequences of Marital Disruption for Women in Their Middle Years."	315
	1982	"Effects of Age, Length of Work Interruption, and State of the Economy on the Reentry Wages of Women."	316
	1983	"Effects of Education and Occupational Training on the Wages of Mature Women."	317
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	1979	"A Profile of Women Potentially Eligiblefor the Displaced Homemaker Program under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1978."	319
	1982	"Retirement Plans of Middle-Aged Married Women."	320
Shaw, Lois B. Gagen, Mary G.	1984	"Retirement Decisions of Husbands and Wives."	321
Shaw, Lois B. Shapiro, David	1983	"Early Work Plans, Actual Work Behavior, and Wages of Young Women."	322
Shaw, Lois B. Sproat, Kezia V.	1980	"Mature Women in the Work Force: Research Findings and Policy Recommendations from the National Longitudinal Surveys."	323
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Shields, Patricia M.	1977	"The Determinants of Service in the Armed Forces during the Vietnam Era."	325
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